CITY HILIGHTS

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Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
of Karnataka

Department of Health and Family Welfare

Shri. D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister
of Karnataka

Inauguration

Nation's 1st GOVERNMENT OWNED STATE-OF-THE ART

Integrated Command & Control Centre

108 AROGYA KAVACHA & 104 AROGYA SAHAYA VANI | **ONE CALL IN NEED, RESPONSE AT SPEED.**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE INITIATIVE

GOVERNMENT-OWNED INTEGRATED EMERGENCY HEALTH NETWORK

The Government of Karnataka introduces a state-of-the-art centralized Command & Control Centre for seamless operation of emergency ambulance services including 108 Arogya Kavacha, Nagu Magu & other ambulances.

DIGITAL HOSPITAL MAPPING

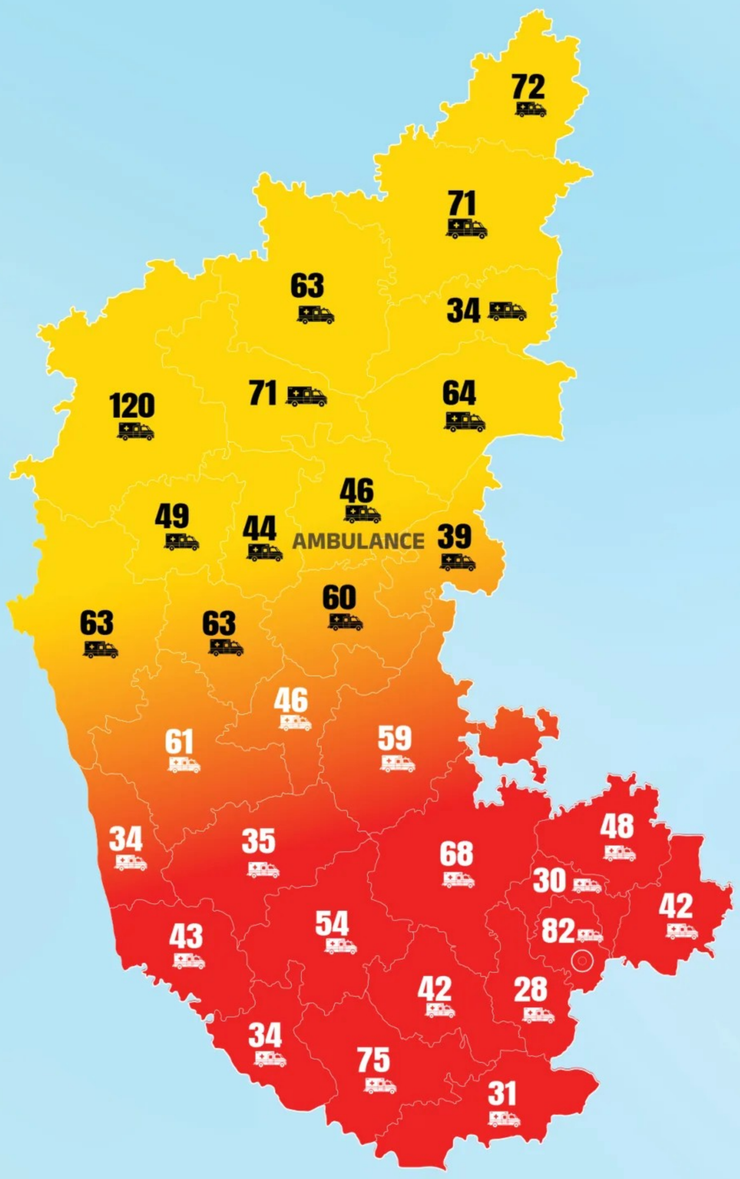
- GIS mapping of Government & Private hospitals
- Identification of nearest suitable treatment facility

ROBUST & SECURE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Hosted on secure Karnataka State Data Centre (KSDC) servers
- Reliable & uninterrupted connectivity through Karnataka State Wide Area Network (KSWAN) & dual SIP trunk lines

REAL-TIME AMBULANCE TRACKING

- Automated vehicle location & tracking enabled ambulances
- Nearest ambulance dispatch with Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA) calculation
- SMS alerts with ambulance tracking details
- Patient vitals captured through digital Patient Care Record using Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) devices



*District-Wise Ambulance's across Karnataka

QUICK RESPONSE DURING EMERGENCIES

- Emergency calls answered within 5 seconds
- Automatic Location Based System (LBS) for accurate caller location detection
- Faster ambulance dispatch to save critical time

SMART MEDICAL SUPPORT

- Pre-hospital emergency care with expert medical guidance
- Real-time consultation through MDT devices
- Prior alerts to receiving hospitals for preparedness

COMMITTED TO SAVING LIVES

Providing timely emergency medical care for :

- Pregnant women
- Accident victims
- Health disaster emergencies
- Patients requiring urgent treatment

LARGE & INTEGRATED EMERGENCY FLEET

- Centralized operation of ambulances across Health & allied departments
- Integrated with 104 Health Helpline,
- 112 ERSS, 181 Women & Child Helpline and more
- Emergency medical assistance enabled through the 112 India Mobile App

TECHNOLOGY ENABLED RESPONSE & IMMEDIATE ACTION IN HEALTH EMERGENCIES FOR THE CITIZENS OF KARNATAKA

Inauguration By :
Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Government of Karnataka.

Guest of Honour :
Shri D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister,
Government of Karnataka.

Presided By :
Shri S. Suresh Kumar
Hon'ble MLA, Rajajinagar,
Assembly Constituency.

Date: **25 May 2026**
Time: **11:00 AM**

Venue:
INTEGRATED COMMAND & CONTROL CENTER
Basaveshwara nagar, Bengaluru-560079

Chief Guest :
Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao
Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare,
Government of Karnataka.

Guest of Honour :
Shri Priya Krishna
Hon'ble MLA, Govindarajanagar,
Assembly Constituency.

FASTER RESPONSE. SMARTER CARE. SAVING LIVES 24X7.

DIAL 108 | FREE EMERGENCY SERVICE | AVAILABLE 24X7

Honourable Chief Minister
Shri Siddaramaiah
& Health Minister
Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao
participated in the
department's programme

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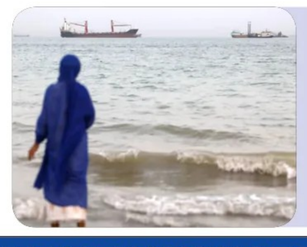

US-Iran inch closer to deal to end war P8

P10 Sachin's emotional note praises Arjun's patience after LSG Debut

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10 drown while collecting mussels in Bhatkal river

The incident occurred when 14 from Shirali entered the river to collect mussels, a seasonal activity practised by locals along coastal regions

BHATKAL

Ten members of a family, including seven women, drowned while two others were reported missing after a group attempting to collect freshwater mussels was swept away by strong currents in the Tatte Hakkalu river in the delta area near Bhatkal of Uttara Kannada district, police sources said on Sunday.

According to police sources, around 14 people from Shirali village had entered the river to collect mussels, a seasonal activity practised by local communities along riverbanks and coastal regions.

"During the process, they allegedly moved deeper into the river without accurately assessing the water level. When the water flow suddenly increased, one or two persons were swept away." Several others then jumped into the river in an attempt to rescue those struggling in the water, leading to more people being caught in the strong current.

Police sources said eight bodies had been recovered so far, while two others remained missing.

Among the deceased, nine people have been identified as Laxmi Mahadev Naik Malumane (38), Malati Jattappa Naik (38), Laxmi Annappa Naik (44), Mastamma Manjunath Naik (43), Umesh Manjunath Naik (42), Shivaram Naik (39), Nagarathna Paramwshwar Naik (40), Jyoti Nagappa Naik (37), and Manjamma Naik (50). All deceased were natives of Saradahole in Shirali of Bhatkal taluk.

Mahadev Naik (52), who reportedly drowned, is still missing. Those rescued and hospitalised include Mahadevi Manjunath Naik (60), Latha Jagadish Naik (38) and Nagaratna Eeshwara Naik (40).

Rescue personnel, police teams and local residents were continuing intensive search operations in the river. The sources said the incident occurred after the river current intensified amid rains in the region, sweeping away multiple persons who had ventured into deeper sections of the waterbody while collecting mussels. "Collecting freshwater mussels is a livelihood activity for some sections of people, similar to fishing. Many of those involved were experienced in the work and had reportedly undertaken such activities earlier as well,"

CM, DyCM, LoP condole deaths

Mourning the tragedy, Siddaramaiah in a X post said he was deeply distressed to learn about the "extremely tragic and painful incident." DyCM DK Shivakumar and LoP R Ashoka also condoled the deaths.

PM, CM announce solatia

- PM Narendra Modi also announced an ex-gratia of **₹2 lakh** from the PMNRF for the kin of the deceased.
- Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced a solatium of **₹5 lakh** to the next to the kin of each victim.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
GUARANTEE HABBA
Stepping into the 4th year
Gruha Jyothi
Up to 200 units of free electricity per house
Over the past three years, Guarantee Sarkara, through the Gruha Jyothi Scheme, has provided up to 200 units of free electricity, reducing household expenses and enabling families to use their savings towards better livelihoods and a more secure future
₹26,115 Crore
Support has been provided under the Gruha Jyothi Scheme, easing the financial burden on households across Karnataka
Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
1.64 Crore Families are benefiting under the Gruha Jyothi Scheme, helping build more secure and financially stable lives
D K Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Shakthi
Anna Bhagya
Gruha Lakshmi
Yuva Nidhi
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karnataka information
Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Siddaramaiah and Hon'ble Minister Shri K.J. George addressing the Press
Scan the QR Code to Witness the Impact of Gruha Jyothi

Rubio signals imminent US-India deal

NEW DELHI

India and the US on Sunday sought to project continuity and momentum in their strategic partnership despite unease over trade talks and tightening American visa policies, with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar raising concerns over difficulties faced by legitimate Indian travellers seeking entry into the US.

Addressing a joint press meet in Delhi alongside US Secretary of State Marco Rubio after delegation-level talks, Jaishankar said the two sides had made progress in trade negotiations and remained committed to deepening cooperation in energy, technology, mobility and regional security. "We spoke about the value of concluding at an early date the final text of the interim agreement regarding reciprocal and mutually beneficial trade," Jaishankar said.

Rubio confirmed that both sides were "on the verge" of reaching a durable agreement. "The US-India relationship has not lost any momentum," he said, pushing back against suggestions that trade tensions under Trump had strained ties.

An Indian delegation had recently travelled to the US for discussions, he said, while a US team was expected in India soon for negotiations.

7 MLCs to retire on June 30; poll notification likely next week

Bengaluru: Seven members elected to the Legislative Council from the state assembly are set to retire on June 30, and the election notification is likely to be issued next week.

The retiring members include Naseer Ahmed, BK Hariprasad, and Tippannappa Kamaknoor (Congress); MTB Nagaraj, K Prathap Simha Nayak, and Sunil Vallyapur (BJP); and Govindaraju (JD(S) member.

Meanwhile, the terms of H Vishwanath, Bharathi Shetty, Shantaram Siddi, and Dr Talwara Sabanna (BJP), and Ramesh Babu (Cong), who are nominated members of the Legislative Council, will end in July.

6 cops suspended after explosives found during PM's B'luru visit

BENGALURU

Six policemen were placed under suspension pending inquiry after gelatin sticks were recently found on the outskirts of Bengaluru during Prime Minister Narendra Modi scheduled visit.

Following orders by R Srinivas Gowda, Superintendent of Police, Bengaluru South District, a Police Sub-Inspector (PSI), an Assistant Police Sub-Inspector (ASI), and four constables were suspended for alleged dereliction of duty.

The incident occurred on May 10 when two gelatin sticks, six incense sticks, a matchbox, cellophane tapes, a battery pack, wires and what appeared to be a circuit board were found 20 feet from a mud road adjacent to the forest area close to Kanakapura Road.

Prime Minister Modi was in Bengaluru to participate in the celebrations marking 45 years of The Art of Living (AoL) Foundation and the 70th birthday of its founder, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar.

The explosives were found nearly one-and-a-half hours ahead of the PM's visit.

BJP's Panda wins Falta repoll by over 1.09 lakh votes

Kolkata: The first-ever BJP government now has 208 seats in the West Bengal Assembly as Debangshu Panda won the Falta constituency repoll by a margin of 1,09,021 votes on Sunday.

Once a Trinamool Congress stronghold, Panda's nearest rival was from the CPI(M), while Congress came third as TMC's Jahangir Khan slipped to fourth position.

Few days prior to the re-election, Jahangir Khan had announced that he would not be in the contest, a decision the Trinamool described as personal.

The repoll was conducted on May 21 in all 285 booths under heavy central force deployment after the Election Commission ordered fresh voting following allegations of large-scale irregularities during the April 29 polling.

QUICK READ

MVJ Medical College to hold Graduation Day on May 26

CH News, Bengaluru
MVJ Medical College and Research Hospital will organise the 17th Graduation Day ceremony for undergraduate students of the 2020-21 batch on May 26. Karnataka Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao will be the chief guest and deliver the convocation address. The function will be presided over by college chairman M J Mohan. Chief Executive Officer Dharni Mohan and Principal B Ravichander will also participate in the programme, according to a release issued by the institution.

Elderly man killed in road accident before daughter's eyes

CH News, Bengaluru
An 80-year-old man was killed after being hit by a speeding motorcycle while crossing a road near Seetharambhattarapalya in Nelamangala taluk on the outskirts of Bengaluru. The deceased was identified as Bhootaiah, a resident of Srirampura in Hosadurga. According to police, the accident occurred when he was attempting to cross the road and was struck by a motorcycle travelling at high speed. The incident unfolded in front of his daughter, leaving the family devastated. Bhootaiah died on the spot due to severe injuries. The Nelamangala Traffic Police have registered a case and launched an investigation into the accident.

Turtle-themed postal envelopes released at Bannerghatta Park

CH News, Bengaluru
World Turtle Day was celebrated at the Bannerghatta Biological Park in collaboration with India Post, the Post Crossing Welfare Society of India and Postcard Ville. As part of the celebrations, nine special postal envelopes featuring land, sea and freshwater turtles were released. Visitors were educated about the distinguishing features of different turtle species and their ecological significance. A short conservation film highlighted ways in which the public can contribute to turtle protection efforts. The display of turtle specimens also drew considerable attention from tourists. Among those present were postal department officials Dinesh Narayan and Nalini, park Deputy Director Anusha, Dr Prayag, Zonal Forest Officer Anand Madane, Deputy Zonal Forest Officer Arpita and Mahesh.

Back-to-school shock: School bag and shoe prices jump up to 25%

Rising fuel, transport and raw material costs burden parents statewide heavily.

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

Parents across Karnataka are facing a fresh financial burden ahead of the new academic year, with the prices of school bags and shoes witnessing a sharp increase due to rising fuel, transportation and raw material costs.

As schools prepare to reopen in June, families have begun purchasing essential items for students. However, many are finding that school bags and footwear now cost significantly more than they did a year ago. According to traders and retailers, prices have increased by 10% to 25%, affecting both branded products and locally manufactured items.

Retailers attribute the rise largely to higher fuel prices, which have pushed up transportation costs across the supply chain. Goods transported from manufacturing units to wholesale markets and retail stores are now incurring higher logistics expenses. Increased diesel prices have also raised lorry freight charges, making interstate transportation more expensive.

"Every stage of transportation has become costlier. Manufacturers and distributors are paying more to move goods, and those costs eventually reach consumers," said a retailer in Bengaluru.

Industry representatives say rising production costs have further contributed to the price hike. The prices of key raw materials used in manufacturing school bags and shoes, including rubber, leather, plastic, foam and fabric, have increased considerably over the past several months.

Manufacturers are struggling to absorb these additional expenses and have been forced to revise product prices. As a result, customers are now paying substantially more for items that are considered essential for the school year.

The seasonal rush ahead of school reopening has also played a role in driving up prices. Demand for bags, shoes, uniforms and other educational supplies traditionally peaks during May and June, giving traders limited room to offer discounts.

Parents, particularly those from middle-income households, say the cumulative impact of education-related expenses is becoming increasingly difficult to manage. Apart from tuition fees, they are already spending on textbooks, notebooks, uniforms and transportation.

"Every year the expenses increase. This time, even basic items like school bags and shoes have become much costlier," said a parent shopping for her children in Bengaluru.

The impact is being felt not only in physical stores but also on online shopping platforms, where many products have seen noticeable price increases.

Traders warn that prices may rise further if fuel rates continue to climb in the coming weeks. With transportation and manufacturing costs showing no signs of stabilising, parents may have to brace for higher spending throughout the back-to-school season.

Revised domestic workers bill eases rules on homeowners, cuts penalties

BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has prepared a revised draft of the Karnataka Domestic Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Bill, 2026, incorporating several changes to the original proposal released in October last year. The revised bill seeks to strengthen welfare measures for domestic workers while relaxing some of the stringent provisions and penalties that had drawn objections from homeowners' associations.

The new draft was discussed at a recent Cabinet meeting and is aimed at extending social security benefits to domestic workers, who fall under the unorganised sector. The legislation proposes welfare measures such as provident fund benefits, accident compensation, insurance coverage, skill development programmes, educational assistance for children and funeral support.

Karnataka, MP Explore Bioenergy Partnership

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board (KSBDB) Chairman S. E. Sudheendra met Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav at Bengaluru Airport and discussed renewable energy cooperation, bioenergy projects, and Karnataka's proposed new bioenergy policy.

During the meeting, Sudheendra explained that Karnataka's upcoming bioenergy policy is designed to promote energy self-reliance, improve farmers' income, generate employment opportunities, and attract fresh investments into the renewable energy sector. He also outlined the State's efforts in expanding bioenergy infrastructure, strengthening research activities, and promoting sustainable fuel development.

The leaders also revisited earlier discussions on exploring the bioenergy potential of Madhya Pradesh. Dr. Mohan Yadav invited Sudheendra to visit the

State and collaborate on future bioenergy initiatives and development opportunities.

The discussion highlighted that the current Compressed Biogas (CBG) technology being implemented in Madhya Pradesh for cow dung and municipal solid waste management has its origins in Bengaluru. Both sides also explored broader cooperation with KSBDB in areas such as advanced laboratory facilities, research expertise, technical support, and policy guidance for strengthening the bioenergy ecosystem.

The meeting reflected a shared commitment towards green energy, sustainable growth, and building a stronger bioenergy future for India.

Bengaluru cannot be contractors' playground, says Tejasvi Surya

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya has urged the Karnataka government and Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) not to proceed with new flyover projects without public consultation and disclosure of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), saying major infrastructure decisions must be transparent and people-centric.

His remarks come amid B-SMILE's proposal to construct nine short and medium-length elevated corridors across Bengaluru at an estimated cost of Rs 3,100 crore. Many of the proposed projects fall within the Bangalore South parliamentary constituency and require wider public discussion before implementation, Surya said.

In a letter addressed to B-SMILE Director B.S. Prahad, Surya sought clarity on the rationale, technical feasibility and projected impact of the proposed corridors. He alleged that the projects were being advanced without adequate transparency or public scrutiny.

Among the projects highlighted in the letter are an elevated corridor from Minerva Circle to Hudson Circle with a loop flyover to Town Hall, a 5.2-km elevated corridor linking Old Madras Road to Electronics City via Swami Vivekananda Metro Station, Indiranagar, Old Airport Road and Hosur Road up to Silk Board Junction, estimated at Rs 852 crore, and a 5.3-km elevated corridor from Shoolay Circle to St John's Hospital Road through Anepalya and Adugodi Junctions at a cost of Rs 519 crore.

Surya cited the Ragigudda flyover as an example of infrastructure projects that can worsen traffic congestion if not planned properly.

According to him, the elevated corridor ends at a busy signal near Aurobindo Junction, merely shifting the traffic bottleneck from Central Silk Board to another location and causing severe congestion during peak hours.

The MP also questioned why the DPRs for the proposed projects had not been placed in the public domain despite their long-term impact on the city's mobility network."Bengaluru cannot be run like a contractors' playground," Surya said, adding that citizens must have a say in projects that significantly alter the city's infrastructure and traffic patterns.

Surya further pointed out that the projects have allegedly not received prior approval from the Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority, the statutory body responsible for reviewing major mobility projects. Without such scrutiny, he argued, it remains unclear whether the flyovers are based on scientific traffic planning or would simply shift congestion from one junction to another rather than solving it.

Bengaluru cannot be run like a contractors' playground, Surya added, insisting that public participation must form the basis of major infrastructure decisions in the city.

Kannada cinema must reconnect with its cultural roots, says K.V. Prabhakar

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

Chief Minister's Media Adviser K.V. Prabhakar (KVP) has expressed concern over the changing direction of the Kannada film industry, saying it has gradually drifted away from its cultural roots and social responsibilities.

Speaking at the seminar "Chandanavana: Then, Now and Tomorrow" organised by the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce, KVP said Kannada cinema was once a powerful cultural movement that reflected the language, literature, traditions and values of Karnataka.

"Kannada cinema was never just about entertainment. It served as a mirror of society and played an important role in shaping Kannada identity," he said.

Recalling landmark films of earlier decades, KVP said classics such as Chomana Dudi, Bangaranda Manushya, Bara and Yajamana addressed social concerns, farmers' struggles, family values and the dignity of labour. These films, he noted, won the hearts of audiences while contributing to social awareness.

He criticised the growing trend of violence-centric films that rely heavily on "machete heroism" and lack meaningful content. According to him, the excessive focus on such themes has affected the overall quality of cinema and weakened its connection with Kannada culture.

At the same time, KVP praised the global success of recent Kannada films such as K.G.F, Kantara, 777 Charlie and Vikrant Rona, which have showcased Kannada storytelling on the international stage.

He urged filmmakers not to sacrifice regional identity in the pursuit of pan-India success and advocated a balanced approach that combines strong storytelling, cultural values and modern technology.KVP also called for greater recognition of writers, directors and technicians, stating that successful cinema is the result of collective creative effort. He assured the gathering that the State Government would sympathetically consider the demands placed before it by the film industry.

Kanak Entrepreneurs' Meet highlights business opportunities

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

The Halumatha Entrepreneurs' Association organised the Kanak Entrepreneurs' Meet and Entrepreneurship Opportunities Awareness Programme at the Sri Kanakadasa Community Hall in Jnanaganga Nagar, Visvesvaraya Layout, Bengaluru, on May 24.

The event aimed to create awareness about entrepreneurship opportunities and encourage members of the community to explore business and self-employment ventures.

The programme was held in the presence of Sri Eshwaranandapuri Mahaswamiji of the Hosadurga branch of Kaginale Kanaka Gurupitha and Sri Yogeshwarananda Mahaswamiji of Ramohalli Ramakrishna Ashrama, who highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship, self-reliance and community development.

Among the dignitaries who attended were H.M. Revanna, State President of the State Five Guarantee Committee; former minister Bandeppa Kashyampur; former MLA Hulinaykar; educationist and youth leader B.G. Vinay Kumar; T.B. Belagavi; Dr Leela; Rudranna Gulaguli; Siddalinga Poojari; Gyanappa Huded; and Sunil Jayaraj.

Speakers stressed the need to empower aspiring entrepreneurs and create greater awareness about emerging business opportunities and government support schemes.

TRANSFORMATION OF PRISONERS

Silence behind bars: Vipassana helps inmates seek a new beginning

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

In a unique rehabilitation initiative, 24 convicts lodged at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison spent 10 days in silence, meditation and self-reflection as part of a Vipassana programme organised by the Prisons and Correctional Services Department.

The programme, aimed at encouraging personal transformation and emotional healing among inmates, required participants to step away from their daily prison routines and

spend 10 days in isolation inside a designated prison hall. Guided by trained instructors and supported by prison staff, the inmates followed the principles of Vipassana, an ancient meditation practice focused on self-observation and mental discipline.

For many participants, the experience proved deeply transformative.

One inmate, who worked as a driver before imprisonment, said he had long been interested in the teachings of spiritual thinkers such as Gautama Buddha, Osho and Ramana Maharshi. However, Vipassana allowed him to experience those ideas in a practical way.

"Through Vipassana, I became aware of the sensations within my body, learned how to sharpen my mind and understood ways to reduce sadness and negativity within myself," he said.

The inmate added that the programme helped him realise the importance of self-control and personal responsibility.

"If we adopt these teachings in our lives, we can avoid making mistakes, live peacefully in society and walk on the right path. In doing so, we can also inspire others," he said.

Another participant described the programme as a turning point in understanding the connection between thoughts, emotions and behaviour.

KEA to hold CET seat allotment workshops across Karnataka

BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) will organise "CET Seat Allotment Manthana" workshops across 65 government engineering, medical and dental colleges in the state from May 25 to 30 to help students and parents better understand the counselling and seat allotment process for professional courses.

Announcing the initiative, KEA Executive Director H. Prasanna said the workshops aim to create awareness and prevent common mistakes during option entry and counselling, which often result in students losing seats in preferred colleges despite securing good ranks.

QUICK READ

Violent clash between bakery owners leaves man injured

Udupi

Udupi police registered a case after a violent clash between two bakery owners near Karavali Bypass in Moodanidambur village. Muralidhar, 35, owner of Pooja Bakery in Kidiyoor, alleged that neighbouring shopkeeper Ashok, who runs Krishna Bakery nearby, entered his bakery around 12:30 pm and verbally abused him before attacking him. According to the complaint, Ashok grabbed Muralidhar by the collar, slapped and kicked him, then allegedly stabbed him in the chest and neck with a knife when he tried to stand up. The victim reportedly suffered internal injuries. Udupi city police have begun an investigation and are examining the circumstances surrounding the alleged assault near the bypass.

Mangaluru police book 25 in massive NDPS crackdown

Mangaluru

Mangaluru city police registered 25 cases under the NDPS Act during a single-day anti-drug operation conducted across multiple police station limits. Several individuals were arrested for allegedly consuming narcotic substances in public places, including near beaches, railway crossings, hospitals, roadsides and residential areas. Among those booked were residents from Mangaluru, Kerala, Rajasthan and Tumakuru district. Police teams from Pandeshwar, Panambur, Ullal, Barke, Konaje, Kadri, Bunder, Urwa and Kavoor stations carried out coordinated raids and checks throughout the commissionerate. Two accused, including a habitual offender from Kundapura, reportedly tested positive for drug consumption during medical examination. Authorities said the crackdown forms part of intensified efforts to curb rising drug abuse and related activities across the coastal city.

New policy aims restore core engineering demand Karnataka

Karnataka will cap computer science engineering seats at 900 per institution to balance admissions across engineering branches.

MANGALURU

The Karnataka government has decided to regulate admissions in computer science and allied engineering courses by imposing a maximum limit of 900 seats per institution. Higher Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar said the move is aimed at ensuring balanced student distribution across different engineering branches and preventing excessive concentration in computer science-related programmers.

The minister noted that admissions to core engineering streams such as civil, mechanical and automobile engineering have witnessed a sharp decline in recent years. Students are increasingly opting for computer science courses because of attractive salary packages and better employment opportunities in the technology sector. As a result, many established engineering colleges have significantly expanded their intake in computer science and related streams, creating thousands of seats with similar curricula.

To address the growing imbalance, the state government formed a committee headed by Sowmyanarayanan Sadagopan, former director of International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore. Based on the committee's recommendations, new engineering colleges will initially be permitted to admit only 60 students per specialization. Over four years, institutions can gradually increase intake in computer science-allied programmers up to 180 seats.

Under the new policy, colleges can offer a maximum of five computer science-related courses, with a total cap of 900 seats across all such programmers. Institutions seeking to increase intake beyond 180 seats after four years must obtain accreditation from the National Board of Accreditation. Once accredited, colleges may add 60 seats annually, subject to a maximum limit of 300 seats per course.

Existing institutions with higher student intake will receive a transition period to meet the revised guidelines. Colleges failing to secure NBA accreditation within two years may face reductions in sanctioned seats. The committee has also recommended updating engineering curricula by integrating artificial intelligence and emerging technologies into traditional branches to improve relevance and employability.

Kimmane challenges Araga over sand allegations

THIRTHAHALLI

Former minister Kim mane Ratnakar has challenged MLA Araga Jnanendra to publicly swear that he has not received any money linked to illegal sand mining activities in Thirthahalli.

Former minister Kimmane Ratnakar has challenged MLA Araga Jnanendra to publicly swear that he has not received money from illegal sand mining activities, escalating political tensions in Thirthahalli. Speaking at a press conference, Kimmane accused the MLA of involvement in sand-related controversies and questioned his public conduct.

He alleged that Araga Jnanendra has been making frequent visits to sand quarry sites and participating in protests involving individuals allegedly linked to illegal sand extraction. He further claimed that several local leaders in the region have benefited financially from sand mining operations, leading to corruption concerns and political friction.

Kimmane Ratnakar also challenged the MLA to take an oath in a temple denying any financial involvement in sand mining. He stated that he himself was ready to undergo such a public verification, intensifying his accusations during the press interaction. He also questioned the source of wealth of certain political figures in the region, linking it to alleged illegal sand trade.

He criticized the functioning of local governance, claiming that sand mining activities continue in several areas including Araga and surrounding villages, while regulatory authorities have failed to take strong action. He further alleged misuse of funds for political organization-building activities.

The former minister also raised broader political issues, stating that his party would closely monitor voter list revisions and ensure active participation at polling stations. He accused the MLA of neglecting legislative responsibilities and focusing on political activities outside the assembly.

The remarks have added to ongoing political rivalry in the Malnad region, where sand mining and local development issues remain contentious topics.

Railways to float Shivamogga - Sringeri line tender soon

MANGALURU

Union Minister of State for Railways V. Somanna has announced that tenders for the proposed Shivamogga–Sringeri–Mangaluru railway line project, estimated at nearly Rs 3,300 crore, will soon be invited. During his visit to Mangaluru Junction railway station, he reviewed works under the Amrit Bharat station scheme and said the Final Location Survey for the 332-km railway line has been completed. The project is expected to improve connectivity between coastal Karnataka, Malnad and interior districts while boosting tourism, trade and freight movement. Somanna also said a feasibility study is underway for a railway station near Mangaluru International Airport. He added that work on the Hassan–Mangaluru doubling project and surveys for additional Shoranur–Mangaluru railway lines are progressing. Karnataka currently has railway projects worth nearly Rs 52,000 crore underway.

Lawyers demand High Court circuit bench in Shivamogga for better access to justice and regional convenience

Shivamogga urged for High Court circuit bench

SHIVAMOGGA

Legal professionals and civic leaders have renewed their demand for establishing a High Court circuit bench in Shivamogga, arguing that it would greatly benefit litigants from the central and Malnad regions of Karnataka. The demand was raised during a press interaction in Shikaripura, where advocates stressed that a local judicial bench would improve access to justice and reduce travel burdens.

Advocate Chandrakant Patil said that instead of establishing a High Court circuit bench in Mangaluru, the government should consider setting it up in Shivamogga itself. He argued that such a move would better serve surrounding districts and ensure easier access for litigants who currently have to travel long distances for legal proceedings.

He further stated that shifting cases from the region to a circuit bench located elsewhere, such as Mangaluru, could create logistical challenges for citizens. According to him, limited transportation facilities and increased travel costs would burden ordinary people, especially those from rural areas. He also expressed concern that local lawyers might be adversely affected if cases are transferred outside the region.

The advocate emphasized that legal professionals in Shivamogga have been demanding a circuit bench for several years and have been continuously campaigning for it. He asserted that the movement would continue until the demand is fulfilled, highlighting that a local bench would significantly ease the judicial process for residents of Shivamogga and nearby districts.

The meeting was attended by several advocates and representatives from civil society organizations, who also supported the demand. Participants reiterated that decentralizing judicial services would improve efficiency, reduce case backlogs, and ensure faster access to justice for people in the region.

Kundapura police seize bikes with modified silencers

KUNDAPURA

Police in Kundapura have intensified action against motorcycles fitted with illegally modified silencers, seizing around six to seven bikes during a special two-day enforcement drive conducted across the town. The operation was launched following repeated complaints from residents regarding excessive noise pollution and reckless riding by bikers using altered exhaust systems.

According to police officials, several riders had removed or tampered with factory-installed silencers, commonly referred to as decibel killers, to create loud and harsh exhaust sounds. These motorcycles were allegedly being driven at high speed in public places such as college campuses, hospital surroundings, student hostel areas and along stretches of the national highway passing through Kundapura, causing inconvenience and disturbance to the public.

The enforcement drive was carried out under the direction of Hariram Shankar and supervised by Kundapura Deputy Superintendent of Police H D Kulkarni along with Town Police Inspector Jayaram Gowda. Traffic police sub-inspectors Anoop Nayak and Sudha Prabhu led the field operation with support from their respective teams.

Police personnel conducted checks at several locations within the traffic police station limits and identified vehicles violating noise and traffic regulations. The seized motorcycles will face legal action as per existing motor vehicle laws.

Traffic sub-inspector Anoop Nayak said the growing number of road accidents has made stricter enforcement of traffic rules necessary. He stated that surveillance and inspections on two-wheelers, heavy vehicles and light motor vehicles would continue regularly.

Police also warned that riders involved in overspeeding, reckless driving and illegal modifications would face strict legal consequences after verification of vehicle documents and licences. The drive is part of a wider statewide campaign to curb noise pollution and improve road safety standards.

MUDIGERE FARMERS CONVENTION DEMANDS PRO-FARMER GOVERNANCE

MUDIGERE

A large farmers' convention held in Mudigere witnessed strong criticism of government policies, with speakers urging voters not to support political parties that are "anti-farmer." The event was organized by the Farmers' Protection Forum at a local community hall, bringing together legal experts, farmer leaders and public representatives.

Senior advocate M. Shiva Prasad, who inaugurated the convention along with others, said that governments that enact anti-farmer laws have historically not survived long. He appealed to farmers to ensure that parties perceived as working against agricultural interests are kept out of power. He also raised concerns about administrative decisions affecting land rights and the cancellation of several farmer applications, which he said had impacted small and marginal farmers, including Dalit and minority communities.

Speakers alleged that delays and irregularities in resolving land-related issues have left many farmers in distress. They pointed out that administrative committees and inquiry teams had been formed earlier to review land allocations under regularization schemes, but subsequent reports were not properly acted upon, leading to confusion and hardship for cultivators.

Former Karnataka Legislative Council Chairman B L Shankar said that farmers in the Malnad region are increasingly becoming more organized in their protests, which he described as a positive development. He assured that he would raise the issues with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and work towards arranging discussions with farmer representatives in Bengaluru to find a solution.

Other speakers highlighted additional challenges, including crop losses due to wild animal attacks, declining agricultural activity, and alleged administrative negligence. They also criticized officials for what they described as inconsistent handling of land-related petitions, which they claimed has worsened the situation for rural communities.

The convention concluded with discussions on future protest strategies and submission of petitions to legal representatives. Farmer leaders reiterated their demand for policy reforms and accountability, stating that agricultural communities should not be ignored in governance decisions affecting land and livelihood security.

Mangalore University hosts Prof Vivek Rai discussion event

MANGALURU

May 27 event at Mangalore University will feature a comprehensive literary review and dialogue programmer titled 'Aanu Olidante Haaduve', focusing on the works and literary contributions of B A Vivek Rai. The programme has been organized to critically examine his writings, research contributions, and influence on Kannada literary studies. The event will bring together scholars, students, and literary enthusiasts for an in-depth discussion on his academic and creative journey.

The literary session is expected to highlight Prof. B. A. Vivek Rai's significant role in shaping modern Kannada scholarship, including his research in folklore, linguistic studies, and cultural history. His works have been widely regarded for their depth and analytical approach, making him one of the prominent voices in Karnataka's literary and academic circles. The discussion will also reflect on the relevance of his writings in contemporary education and research, especially among young scholars and postgraduate students.

The Mangaluru University initiative underscores its commitment to promoting regional literature and fostering academic dialogue between writers, researchers, and students. Faculty members and invited experts are expected to participate in the event, sharing insights into Prof. Vivek Rai's contribution to Kannada literature and his long-standing academic career. The programme is also seen as an opportunity to inspire further research and critical engagement with Kannada literary traditions.

Fallen tree causes hour-long traffic in Agumbe Ghat road

HEBRI

Traffic movement on the Agumbe Ghat road was disrupted for nearly an hour after a tree collapsed near the second curve within Udupi district limits. The incident caused major congestion on the busy ghat stretch connecting the coastal and Malnad regions, where tourist traffic has recently increased significantly. Motorists and local residents expressed concern over several dangerously leaning trees along sharp curves, warning that strong winds and rain during the approaching monsoon could trigger more accidents. People also highlighted the poor condition of damaged retaining walls that remain unrepaired on the route. Residents criticised the alleged negligence of concerned authorities and urged immediate preventive action to ensure commuter safety and avoid possible disasters during the monsoon season.

KUSHALNAGAR VILLAGE UTSAVA

Goddess festival celebrated in Toreenuru village

KUSHALNAGAR

The annual village goddess festival and fair were celebrated with devotion and grandeur in Torenuru, located near Kushalnagar. The event, dedicated to local deities Sri Doddamma and Sri Chikkamma, was organised by the Sri Basaveshwara Temple Trust and witnessed large participation from devotees across the region.

The festivities began with a traditional procession from the temple premises, which moved through major village streets before reaching the designated sacred grounds near the Virakta Mutt in the early hours of the following day. Devotees took part in various rituals, including offering prayers, lighting lamps, and fulfilling vows. Many participants performed ritual fire-walking as a mark of devotion, while offerings of fruits and ghee were made to the deities.

A highlight of the celebration was the colourful procession of illuminated temple chariots, which added vibrancy to the night festivities. The decorated structures, carried by different groups from the village, attracted large crowds and were accompanied by cultural enthusiasm throughout the procession route. A fireworks display near the village bus stand further enhanced the festive atmosphere.

An anna santarpane (community feast) was arranged for devotees at the temple, ensuring participation from visitors and villagers. People from nearby areas as well as districts such as Mysuru and Hassan also attended the event, reflecting the festival's regional importance.

The celebrations included various sports events organised by the local committee, such as cross-country running, kabaddi, volleyball, throwball and cricket tournaments. These activities added a community spirit to the religious occasion.

Temple committee members and local leaders coordinated the arrangements, while priests conducted the rituals as per tradition. The festival concluded with continued participation from villagers and devotees, reinforcing the cultural and spiritual unity of the region.

QUICK READ

Leopard captured after fifteen day forest operation

CHAMARAJANAGAR

A leopard that created fear among villagers in Hanur taluk has been captured by the forest department near Indiganattha on Male Mahadeshwara Hills. Forest officials said the animal was caught in a trap after a continuous operation carried out for nearly 15 days in the area. Authorities suspected the leopard was involved in the recent death of a boy from Bengaluru near Nagamale area. Villagers were also frightened after repeated attacks on goats in nearby villages. Officials said the leopard had escaped earlier despite appearing in camera traps, but was finally captured overnight. Forest staff confirmed that the successful operation brought relief to residents living in surrounding villages.

Bar quarrel turns deadly in Honnalagere

MANDYA

A dispute inside a bar over being called "boss" led to the murder of a young man in Maddur taluk, police said. The incident occurred on May 19 in K. Honnalagere village, and three accused have now been arrested in connection with the case. Police identified the accused as Nishant, Karthik, and Ravi from Gulurudoddy village. Officials said the argument began at a bar and later escalated into a street fight, where the victim Sunil was attacked and killed. Authorities added that the group was intoxicated during the incident. The accused have been taken into judicial custody as investigation continues in Mandya district.

Nitin Nabin urges strong organisational rebuilding work

Nabin urged strong organisational strategy, booth-level coordination, and careful voter list revision ensuring accurate electoral rolls

BENGALURU

BJP National President Nitin Nabin has asked party leaders in Karnataka not to depend on the Congress government's failures alone to return to power, and instead build a strong organisation through continuous ground-level work.

He was speaking at a key organisational meeting held at the BJP state office in Bengaluru during his first visit to Karnataka, where he interacted with MPs, MLAs, MLCs, and party office bearers.

Nabin stressed that the party must adopt a strong organisational strategy similar to the West Bengal model, with focus on booth-level, mandal-level, and district-level coordination.

He said that leaders should treat voter list preparation and Special Intensive Revision (SIR) as seriously as elections, ensuring no eligible voter is removed and no ineligible name is added.

The BJP leader instructed members to move beyond social media and press statements and instead focus on direct public engagement and protest at the grassroots level against government failures.

He said that real political strength comes from worker-level mobilisation and strong connection with citizens, not just speeches made inside the Assembly or media statements.

Nabin also held separate meetings with party MLAs, MPs, district presidents, and frontal organisation leaders to

discuss preparations for the 2028 Assembly elections.

He emphasised that the party should work unitedly with a clear roadmap, adding that BJP's growth from a small party to ruling several states was possible due to strong organisation and discipline.

He warned leaders against assuming that Congress would automatically lose power due to its failures, saying that political success requires building a credible alternative.

Senior BJP leader C.T. Ravi, explaining Nabin's message, said the Congress government has failed on issues like corruption, price rise, and governance, but BJP must still earn people's trust through active work.

He said Karnataka needs a strong alternative that addresses unemployment, supports farmers, and gives hope to women and youth.

Nabin also urged leaders to stay connected with party workers and continuously engage with the public to strengthen the organisation at every level.

The meeting marked an important step in shaping BJP's strategy for upcoming elections in the state.

Congress shielding desecrators who defiled Shivling: MLA Kamath

MANGALURU

Vedavyasa Kamath slammed the ruling Congress for attempting to withdraw cases against its workers accused of desecrating a sacred Shivling and attacking devotees and officials.

BJP legislator Vedavyasa Kamath strongly condemned the state Congress government for allegedly trying to protect its party workers involved in an incident at the Ladle Mashak Dargah in Aland, Kalaburagi.

He stated that the individuals who urinated and defecated on the holy Shivling, and then assaulted devotees, the district collector, and police personnel, are not innocent and must face full punishment.

Kamath expressed deep concern over Speaker U.T. Khadar allegedly recommending the withdrawal of cases against the accused, terming it not only a betrayal of democratic values but also a highly disturbing development.

He accused the Congress administration of filing false cases against Hindu activists, slapping rowdy sheets on them, while simultaneously dropping charges against Muslim fundamentalists, thereby encouraging further anti-social activities.

The MLA argued that the government's actions, driven purely by selfish political interests, are hurting the religious sentiments of the Hindu majority and supporting dangerous forces. He urged the Congress government to immediately reverse this decision in the interest of public safety and state security.

Officials warned rising youth tobacco use causes serious health issues, educating the public and shopkeepers during raids

Farmers face diesel shortage amid rising prices

SURAAPURA

Farmers in Surapura are facing serious difficulties due to a shortage of diesel at several petrol stations in the town, adding to their hardship during the busy agricultural season.

The problem has worsened in the wake of continuous increases in petrol and diesel prices.

Farmers were seen waiting in long queues carrying plastic cans at fuel stations including those near the Municipal Corporation, Kembhavi Road and Hasanapur Camp. Many said they had been waiting since morning without success as diesel was not available at most outlets.

With the arrival of monsoon rains, farmers have begun ploughing and preparing their

fields, and tractors require diesel for farm work. However, the shortage has disrupted agricultural activities and delayed work across villages. Farmers expressed frustration, saying timely farming operations are being affected during the crucial season.

They alleged that fuel supply to local bunkers has become irregular due to price hikes and supply issues. Many farmers said they are forced to travel between stations in search of fuel, wasting time and effort during peak agricultural work.

Farmers have urged the government to address the shortage immediately and ensure regular diesel supply at all petrol stations.

They also appealed for stable fuel distribution so that agricultural activities can continue without further disruption during the monsoon farming period across the region.

When Passion Meets Economic Reality

SUHANA SHIPRA

Not all roads lead to success. Some lead to unemployment, low wages, or exploitation. Amid an ongoing career crisis and economic instability, many young people are beginning to question whether talent, passion, and ambition alone are enough to build a secure future. In a time of rising inflation and shrinking employment opportunities, career decisions have become more complicated than ever before. Questions surrounding financial security, job availability, and the value of higher education continue to concern students and professionals alike.

To better understand these challenges, we spoke with Akanksha Agrawal, a graduate of University of Delhi and a career counsellor. According to Agrawal, the responsibility largely falls on the government to create stronger employment opportunities and improve the country's job infrastructure. She explains that the current job market remains structurally outdated and poorly organised, preventing many individuals from contributing effectively to economic growth. "Even when people wish to pursue their passion, they are often unable to do so because suitable opportunities simply do not exist," she says. Poor infrastructure, limited industrial growth, and the lack of updated employment systems continue to affect young professionals across sectors.

Agrawal also addressed the social tendency to value certain professions above others. She believes that while some careers may be more urgently needed during specific periods, every profession contributes meaningfully to society. "All careers serve a purpose in different ways," she explains. "The importance of a profession depends on the needs of society at a given time. This does not only apply to commerce, trade, or innovation, but also to the arts. "She further notes that throughout history, art and culture have played a significant role during wars, economic depressions, and social movements by offering people emotional support, awareness, and hope.

The discussion also raised an important question often asked by students and parents alike: Does a college degree guarantee success? Agrawal believes that success depends on far more than academic qualifications. "Communication skills, networking, ambition, passion, and practical abilities often shape a person's future more than a degree alone," she says. "There are highly successful individuals without formal degrees, while many degree holders still struggle with unemployment."

Another growing concern among employers is the rise of "job hopping" among younger generations. Frequently changing jobs is often criticised as a sign of disloyalty or a lack of commitment. However, Agrawal argues that the issue is far more complex. "This is a grey area and depends heavily on individual circumstances," she explains. "Many companies impose excessive workloads, unhealthy work environments, or unreasonable working hours. "She emphasises the importance of employees being aware of their legal rights, employment contracts, and workplace protections guaranteed under the law. Workers, she says, must remain vigilant and informed while making career decisions.

Ultimately, Agrawal believes that individuals should look beyond salary expectations alone. While financial stability remains important, young professionals must also understand their rights, pursue meaningful work, and contribute responsibly to society.

MP Shreyas Patel rescues Kedarnath yatra pilgrim

HASSAN

MP Shreyas Patel helped a woman pilgrim who fell ill during the Kedarnath Yatra after she suffered breathing difficulty due to heavy rain and low oxygen conditions in the high altitude region.

Following her distress call his office immediately contacted Rudraprayag district authorities and arranged urgent helicopter evacuation with medical assistance to bring her down safely to hospital.

M N Nandini expressed gratitude saying she never expected such a situation during the pilgrimage and thanked the MP for timely help. She explained that due to heavy crowd and severe breathing difficulty at high altitude she struggled despite receiving oxygen support at the location. Later immediate coordination helped shift her by helicopter to Rudraprayag hospital where doctors provided treatment and her condition improved gradually. Hospital officials later confirmed that she is stable and recovering well after the emergency evacuation and timely medical attention provided during the Yatra incident.

Weeks of travel hardship highlight the risks faced by pilgrims in high altitude regions and this incident shows the importance of quick administrative response and coordinated rescue support systems for public safety during religious journeys. Authorities advised pilgrims to follow safety guidelines and remain cautious while travelling in extreme weather conditions especially in mountainous routes where oxygen levels and weather can change rapidly without warning.

BHADRAVATI POLICE REGISTERS RAPE CASE AGAINST BJP LEADER

BHADRAVATI

Police in Bhadravati have registered a case against a BJP Yuva Morcha leader and lawyer following serious allegations made by a 23-year-old woman. The complaint states that the accused allegedly misused trust and harassed the woman on multiple occasions. A case has been filed at Paper Town Police Station and investigation is underway.

According to police sources the woman alleged that the accused contacted her through social media and introduced himself as a friend of her husband. He is also accused of repeatedly visiting her workplace and creating fear and pressure. The allegations further claim that he threatened her to stay silent.

Police said the matter came to light after the woman informed her family and a formal complaint was submitted. Officials have begun collecting evidence and recording statements from those involved. Authorities have urged the public not to spread rumours and to allow a fair investigation.

Police confirmed that the accused has been booked under relevant sections and further action will depend on investigation findings. The investigation team is also verifying digital evidence including chats and call records linked to the case. Police said strict action will be taken if allegations are proven true after due legal process.

Officials added that the case is being treated seriously and all statements will be cross checked before filing chargesheet in court to ensure justice and fairness in investigation smooth process continues.

Police have appealed to citizens to avoid sharing unverified information on social media regarding the incident.

MLA Ashok Rai lays foundation for concrete road

Vittla

MLA Ashok Rai performed the foundation stone laying ceremony for the concrete road at Bobbekeri on the Vittla-Mangaluru main road within the Vittla Town Panchayat limits.The project, estimated at ₹60 lakh, received the necessary grant through the legislator's efforts. The stretch had remained a point of dispute and neglect for several years.Rai stepped in to settle the long-standing issues and ensured the required funds were made available, enabling the development work to commence. This upgrade is expected to greatly benefit daily commuters and local residents in the area.

SBI Pensioners Association hosts awareness programme event

UDUPI

Udupi Police Cyber Crime Station took a proactive step to protect vulnerable citizens when PC 358 Pavan Kumar conducted a detailed session on digital safety for nearly 30 retired employees of the State Bank of India.

The event unfolded under the banner of the SBI Pensioners' Association, drawing enthusiastic participation from senior citizens eager to strengthen their defenses against online threats.

Kumar walked participants through prevalent cyber frauds that frequently target pensioners, covering tactics such as hacking attempts, deceptive job offers, alluring yet fake loan proposals, and the increasingly common "digital arrest" schemes used by scammers.

He placed special emphasis on the national helpline 1930, urging attendees to report any suspicious activity immediately for swift official intervention. Attendees remained fully engaged throughout the interactive program, asking questions and sharing experiences that underscored the real-world relevance of these warnings.

This initiative reflects the growing commitment by local law enforcement in Karnataka to shield elderly residents from the surge in digital financial crimes.

Karnataka introduces law protecting gig workers

BENGALURU

TKarnataka has introduced a new law to provide legal recognition and protection to gig workers across the state, marking a major step in labour welfare in the platform economy.

Karnataka Youth Congress President Manjunath Gowda said the Siddaramaiah-led government has created this dedicated framework for gig workers, including bike taxi riders and delivery partners, for the first time in the country. He said the welfare board will ensure registration of workers, grievance redressal, insurance cover, and financial security funded by fees collected from digital platform companies operating in the state.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said the initiative will improve working conditions and bring social security benefits to lakhs of workers in Bengaluru and other cities.

Officials said the scheme will provide accident compensation up to four lakh rupees and insurance support, along with a grievance mechanism for workers to file complaints against companies.

However, opposition leaders and labour activists have raised concerns that implementation challenges, low earnings, and lack of enforcement may reduce the law's effectiveness unless strict monitoring is ensured.

Labour unions in Bengaluru said gig workers face long working hours, fuel cost pressure, and lack of basic facilities, and they demanded stronger protections and fair pay from companies. We expect the new framework to become a model for other states if it is implemented effectively and supported with proper funding and coordination between departments. The government also plans awareness programmes and registration drives to ensure that maximum gig workers benefit from the welfare scheme and understand their rights clearly. Worker representatives welcomed the law but urged the government to set minimum earnings standards, improve safety conditions, and prevent arbitrary account suspensions by digital platforms.

Hunsur job fair provides 845 employment orders

HUNSUR

A total of 845 people received job orders at a large job fair held in Hunsur as part of the birthday celebration of former MLA H P Manjunath organized by Snehajeevi Rural Development Organization in association with Vision Asthac EV Academy Bengaluru at Ambedkar Bhavan.

Out of 1223 candidates who attended from different parts of Karnataka, 845 were selected and given offer letters on the spot.

Of them, 586 were from Hunsur and nearby taluks including 507 from Hunsur taluk, 156 from Periyapatna, 60 from K R Nagar and 35 from H D Kote taluk and they were selected for jobs in TVS Company at Kadakola.

Former MLA H P Manjunath distributing appointment letters said unemployment is high and private jobs are the best option for youth as government jobs are limited. He said TVS company provides good salary, facilities and job security and urged selected candidates to work with confidence and build their future.

QUICK READ

Welfare initiative supports vulnerable sections of society

MANGALURU

Jnanaodaya Seva Trust from Urva Store in Mangaluru marked its annual day by reaching out to the children of Padil Kodekal Sanvedana Ashram with much-needed supplies. The organisation handed over rice, daily provisions, books, and school bags to the young residents. Trust president Arun Kumar along with other members personally attended the distribution event and interacted with the children. The initiative reflects the trust's ongoing commitment to supporting vulnerable sections of society through such welfare activities.

Money doubling fraud company action demanded case

KALABURAGI

In Kalaburagi, people have alleged that a Solapur-based BVG company cheated them by promising to double money through RD and FD schemes. Between 2011 and 2014, the company operated an office on Hala Javeragi Road and collected deposits from over 2,000 people, mostly labourers. Later, the office was closed and the operators reportedly absconded, leaving investors without their money. The victims now say they are facing harassment from depositors who demand repayment. They have submitted complaints to police and senior officials, but no action has been taken so far. Residents are demanding strict action against the accused company and its representatives for the alleged fraud say locals in Kalaburagi district.

Fugitive Wanted for 7 Years in Burglary Case Apprehended

MANGALURU

City resident Akram alias Boja Akra, who had been evading authorities in connection with a 2015 burglary case registered at Uppinangadi police station, was taken into custody on May 22, 2026. The accused faced charges under Sections 457 and 380 of the Indian Penal Code in Crime No. 158/2015 and had failed to appear before the court for approximately seven years. Officers from Uppinangadi police station, led by Investigation-2 PSI Kaushik B C along with HC-826 Shivarama Rai and PC-2277 Mahadev, located and arrested him at Panambur in Mangaluru.

Following his arrest, the police produced Akram before the court, which ordered him to be placed in judicial custody. Records show that the accused has three additional cases pending at Panambur police station and one more at Ullal police station.

Parameshwara stresses tech for industrial growth

Parameshwara stressed developing Antarasanahalli and Vasantha Narasapura industrial hubs, expanding infrastructure and attracting investments

TUMAKURU

Home Minister and District In-charge Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara said that the use of modern technology is essential for the growth of small-scale industries in Karnataka. He made this statement while addressing the South India KASSIA Conference organised by the Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association at the Glass House in Amanikere, Tumakuru.

He noted that small-scale industries contribute nearly 30 per cent to the state's economy and stressed the need to further strengthen the industrial sector.

He said industrial development in regions like Tumakuru would play a key role in the overall economic progress of the state.

Dr. Parameshwara highlighted the importance of developing industrial zones such as Antarasanahalli Industrial Area and Vasantha Narasapura Industrial Hub. He said the government is committed to expanding infrastructure and attracting more investments to these regions.

He also expressed confidence that Tumakuru has the potential to grow into an international industrial centre in the coming years.

He mentioned that efforts are being made to encourage large-scale projects, including the possibility of helicopter manufacturing in the district.

The minister further said that the government is ready to allocate around 300 acres of land for industrial development.

He also pointed out that 42 acres have already been allotted for the KSCA cricket stadium, reflecting balanced development across sectors.

He added that Tumakuru is receiving 15 to 20 TMC of water under the Hemavathi project, which will support both industrial and agricultural needs. He said development in industry, education and infrastructure must go hand in hand for long-term progress.

Local MLA G.B. Jyothi Ganesh, Tumkur University officials and representatives of the industrial association were present at the event.

Minister Somanna inspects M'luru Junction redevelopment

MANGALURU

A high-level review of ongoing station upgrades highlights the push for superior infrastructure and passenger-friendly facilities under the national railway modernisation drive.

V. Somanna, Minister of State for Railways, carried out a detailed inspection of Mangaluru Junction Railway Station to evaluate the progress of redevelopment works under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.

During his visit, the Minister examined multiple infrastructure improvements and passenger amenity enhancements while directly engaging with travellers to understand their views on current services and upcoming changes.

Somanna stressed the need for maintaining highest quality benchmarks throughout the construction process.

He directed officials and contractors to develop the station as a proud national landmark featuring world-class design, full accessibility, and superior comfort for all users, in keeping with the goal of building a modern Indian Railways.

Captain Brijesh Chowta, Member of Parliament from Dakshina Kannada, accompanied the Minister along with Madhukar Roat, Divisional Railway Manager of Palakkad Division, and other senior branch officers.

Capt. Chowta stated, "Examined the redevelopment initiatives through which railway stations across India are being transformed with modern passenger amenities, improved accessibility, enhanced connectivity, and a better travel experience for citizens."

Manjunath said education drives social change, urging institutions to focus on students' future, discipline, and responsibility

Education must inspire values not business motives: Kotturu Manjunath

KOLAR

MLA Kotturu Manjunath said educational institutions should focus on providing quality learning and building responsible citizens instead of treating education as a business. He spoke during a talent award programme organised by the Millath Welfare Trust at Millath Nagar in Kolar, where meritorious students were honoured for their academic achievements.

Manjunath said education plays an important role in social transformation and institutions must guide students towards knowledge, discipline and social responsibility. He added that schools and colleges should concentrate on students' futures rather than financial gain.

MLC Nazeer Ahmed advised students to reduce excessive use of mobile phones and television and spend more time on studies. He encouraged students to participate in extracurricular activities along with academics and said values and character are equally important for success in life. He also urged children to respect and care for their parents.

Bengaluru North University Syndicate member Arbaz Pasha said awareness programmes are being conducted to encourage higher education among girls.

He said financial support is also being provided to poor students so they can continue their studies without interruption. Several public representatives, teachers, students and parents attended the programme.

Organisers said the event aimed to motivate students from all backgrounds to pursue higher education with confidence and contribute positively to society through hard work, discipline and community service.

MLA reviews forest fire incident near Indi

HORTI

A recent forest fire incident occurred in the forested area near Horti, close to the Sawalasinga hill region. The fire, which reportedly spread due to wind and dry conditions following intermittent rainfall, prompted immediate concern from local authorities and residents.

Local MLA Yashwantharayagouda Patil visited the affected site to inspect the damage and assess the situation. During the visit, he reviewed the extent of the fire damage and discussed preventive measures with forest department officials to ensure that such incidents do not recur in the future.

The MLA emphasized the importance of strengthening fire safety protocols in forest zones, especially during seasonal transitions when dry vegetation and wind conditions can increase the risk of fire outbreaks. He instructed officials to implement stricter monitoring systems and rapid response mechanisms to control any future incidents at an early stage.

Preliminary discussions at the site also highlighted the need for immediate ecological restoration in the affected area. The MLA urged coordinated efforts between government departments and local communities to restore greenery and prevent long-term environmental degradation.

Concerns were also raised regarding possible accountability, with calls for action against responsible parties linked to nearby infrastructure activities, including wind energy projects in the region. Officials noted that further investigation would determine the exact cause and any regulatory lapses.

Representatives from the forest department, local panchayat members, and villagers from nearby settlements were present during the inspection. They collectively stressed the need for increased awareness, better forest protection measures, and stronger enforcement of environmental safeguards.

Overall, the visit underscored the urgency of balancing development activities with environmental protection while ensuring that vulnerable forest areas receive adequate preventive attention and rapid emergency response systems.

Heavy rain disrupts transport in Raichur

RAICHUR

Heavy rainfall in Raichur district caused significant disruption to transport, rural connectivity, and daily life after a temporary bridge was washed away in Sindhanur taluk. Continuous rain led to overflowing streams, damaging weak and unfinished infrastructure across several villages.

In the Chirtnal–Bommanal area of Sindhanur, a temporary bridge built over a local stream was completely swept away as water levels rose rapidly following heavy showers. The bridge had been serving as an essential link for villagers, students, and workers while a permanent construction project has been delayed for several years. Its loss has forced residents to take long detours of nearly 8 kilometers to reach Sindhanur town, affecting access to markets, schools, and government services. Rainfall activity was recorded across multiple parts of the district, with Raichur city receiving about 17.4 mm of rain. Moderate to heavy showers were also reported in Deodurga, Manvi, and Sirwar taluks. Though the rainfall was seasonal, it triggered localized flooding in vulnerable areas due to poor drainage and weak stream embankments.

In Lingasugur taluk, overflowing halla (streams) submerged low-lying causeways and cut off road connectivity at several points. Near the Hatti gold mining region, rising water levels disrupted transportation routes, temporarily isolating nearby settlements.

Strong winds accompanied the rain in some areas, leading to damage in horticultural crops. Farmers reported losses, especially in papaya plantations and other standing crops, raising concerns about early monsoon-related agricultural impact.

Nagaraju accuses MLA son of political conspiracy

TUMAKURU

JD(S) leader Nagaraju has alleged that Gubbi MLA S.R. Srinivas's son Dushyant is engaging in "cunning politics" and attempting to weaken his political position through organised efforts.

Speaking at the JD(S) office in Tumakuru, Nagaraju, who contested from Gubbi in the last Assembly elections, claimed that he was earlier working closely with the MLA's family but is now being targeted through political conspiracy.

He alleged that Dushyant Srinivas had been meeting close aides, former staff, and associates in Bengaluru late at night to collect personal information about him and build a negative narrative.

Nagaraju said attempts were being made to gather details about his personal life, income sources, and alleged weaknesses in order to defame him and damage his political and business reputation.

He further alleged that MLA S.R. Srinivas was also indirectly supporting such activities through his influence and power as an elected representative.

He stated that these actions were aimed at politically weakening him in Gubbi constituency, but he would not be intimidated by such strategies.

Nagaraju warned that if direct political confrontation continues, he would respond firmly to both the MLA and his son in the political field.

He also claimed that efforts were being made to disrupt his business activities and pressure his supporters, which he described as misuse of political power.

JD(S) leaders supporting Nagaraju said that such "personal attack politics" should be avoided and that political competition should remain issue-based and democratic.

They warned that continued targeting of party workers and leaders would lead to strong opposition within the constituency.

Party workers and local JD(S) leaders present at the meeting expressed solidarity with Nagaraju and urged that internal party discipline and fair political conduct be maintained. Meanwhile, the allegations have created fresh political tension in Gubbi constituency, with supporters from both sides exchanging strong statements.

The issue is expected to escalate further as local leaders continue to react to the claims and counter-claims made during the meeting.

STREET DOGS WELFARE

Civic bodies organise animal welfare initiative programme

BENGALURU

A free dog adoption and vaccination camp was successfully held in Bengaluru South, where homeless animals were adopted and vaccinated as part of a welfare initiative.

The programme was jointly organised by the Bengaluru South Municipal Corporation, Jayanagar Canine Squad and Shivshakti Development Trust. The event received a positive response from the public, with animal lovers actively participating in the adoption process.

A total of 10 homeless puppies and one kitten were adopted during the camp. Each of them was taken into safe homes in the presence of volunteers and veterinary staff, marking a successful step towards animal welfare and rehabilitation. Along with the adoption drive, a free vaccination campaign was also conducted to protect the health of animals. Officials said that 20 dogs were administered combined vaccines during the camp.

In addition, rabies vaccination was provided to a total of 30 dogs, ensuring better protection against the disease and improving public safety.

Chief Veterinary Officer Dr. Srinath said the main aim of the programme is to provide safe shelter for street animals and ensure their health and wellbeing. He appreciated the support of partner organisations and volunteers in making the camp successful.

He also said that similar programmes will be organised in the future t o promote animal welfare and encourage public participation in caring for stray and homeless animals.

Municipal staff, veterinary teams, volunteers and animal lovers participated in the event and contributed to its smooth execution.

Brahmavar Police Stress Legal Awareness Drive

BRAHMAVAR

Legal awareness is important for people to live freely and safely in society, said Sub-Inspector Mukta Bai of Brahmavar Police Station. She made the statement while addressing a legal awareness programme organised for beauty parlour trainees and computer DTP students at Rudset Institute in Brahmavar.

She explained that understanding laws related to cyber safety and personal protection is necessary in today's digital world. She advised participants to be careful when joining unknown WhatsApp groups and to exit such groups immediately to avoid cyber risks. She also warned youth to be cautious while using social media platforms like Snapchat. The officer also highlighted the importance of awareness about the POCSO Act and encouraged students to stay informed about laws protecting children and young people. She further advised them to avoid panic and seek proper help in difficult situations, reminding them that every problem has a solution and life should be valued.

Probationary Sub-Inspector Ashrita spoke about cybercrime and said that victims of online fraud should immediately contact the cybercrime helpline 1930 and file complaints without delay. She also cautioned people against clicking suspicious APK files that are often used for digital scams.

Assistant Sub-Inspector Vittal provided information on road safety rules and stressed the importance of following traffic regulations to prevent accidents.

QUICK READ

Twisha Sharma cremated 13 days after death

BHOPAL

Thirteen days after model Twisha Sharma's mysterious death, her final rites were performed at Bhadbhada Vishram Ghat. The cremation follows a second autopsy conducted at AIIMS Bhopal by a top Delhi forensic team. This fresh examination was ordered after Twisha's grieving family objected to the initial medical report. Expressing profound sorrow, her father, Navnidhi Sharma, noted that the long delay severely intensified their emotional trauma during the traditional mourning period. Meanwhile, Twisha's husband remains in police custody. The shattered family has demanded a transparent investigation, placing their ultimate faith in the legal process to find justice.

Assailants shoot Punjab cop on duty

AMRITSAR

A Punjab Police Assistant Sub-Inspector was shot dead by unidentified attackers. The victim, Joga Singh, was traveling for daily duty when bike-borne shooters opened fire at Hamza Morh. Hit by four bullets, the officer died instantly before the killers fled. Senior police teams and forensic experts rushed to the scene, quickly cordoning off the area to gather evidence. Investigators are currently scanning local CCTV footage to identify the suspects. Coming right before local elections, this brutal killing has sparked severe security concerns. Officials promised a thorough investigation to catch the culprits soon.

ARMY HUNTS TRAPPED TERRORISTS IN RAJOURI

JAMMU

The joint operation, involving the Army, Police, and CRPF, began after hiding terrorists fired upon security forces. Soldiers quickly surrounded the area, plugging all escape routes. Officials believe two to three terrorists are trapped inside the challenging, steep terrain of the Pir Panjal range. Surveillance has been intensified with checkpoints monitoring nearby movement. Combing operations continued systematically throughout the day. Fortunately, no casualties have been reported so far. Local residents are cooperating fully, hoping for a peaceful and quick end to the tense standoff.

Goyal: Opposition plotting chaos across the nation

Union Minister Piyush Goyal attacked Rahul Gandhi, accusing the opposition of plotting to destabilize India through chaotic conspiracies.

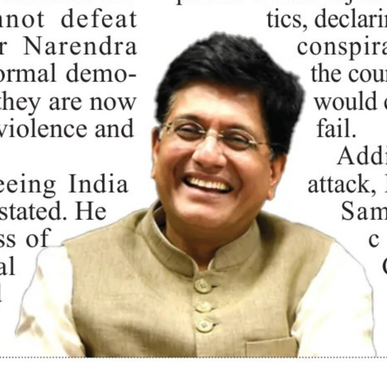
NEW DELHI

A fierce political war of words erupted as Union Minister Piyush Goyal launched a scathing attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, accusing the opposition of plotting to destabilize the nation.

The row started after Gandhi reportedly told a party committee that the Modi government would fall within a year due to rising public anger over the economy.

According to reports, Goyal claimed Gandhi's words reveal a dangerous conspiracy to spread chaos across India. He argued that because the opposition cannot defeat Prime Minister Narendra Modi through normal democratic elections, they are now trying to trigger violence and unrest instead.

"They hate seeing India succeed," Goyal stated. He accused Congress of insulting national institutions and begging foreign powers to interfere in internal matters. However, the minister remained confident that the public would reject these tactics, declaring that any conspiracy to set the country ablaze would completely fail.



Adding to the attack, BJP leader Sambit Patra called Gandhi's statements intentionally provocative. Patra reminded voters of past instances where the Congress leader made aggressive remarks against the Prime Minister, suggesting this is part of a repeated, troubling pattern.

Meanwhile, inside the Congress meeting, leaders like Imran Masood focused on reshaping their political strategy. They discussed ways to strengthen the party's bond with the Muslim community and highlight their contributions ahead of the next elections.

Palaniswami blames TN govt for blackouts

AIADMK's Edappadi K. Palaniswami slammed the Tamil Nadu government over severe summer power cuts, accusing them of poor planning that disrupted citizens and local businesses.

CHENNAI

AIADMK leader Edappadi K. Palaniswami launched a fierce attack on the newly elected Tamil Nadu government, blaming them for severe power cuts hitting households and businesses across the state.

Palaniswami stated that everyone knows electricity demand shoots up during the hot summer months. He claimed that under the previous AIADMK administration, officials planned ahead to secure extra solar, wind, and thermal power, keeping the state running smoothly without any blackouts.

In contrast, he accused the current government of poor planning and unstable management. He noted that prolonged, unannounced power cuts are now ruining daily life, leaving residents with sleepless nights and disrupting simple household chores like cooking. The electricity shortage has also hit local industries, causing heavy financial losses for small and large businesses alike.

Public anger is growing, with reports of stressed citizens taking to the streets in protest, particularly in Chennai's suburbs like Thandaiyarpet. Palaniswami warned the new administration not to use its recent election victory as an excuse for the crisis. He urged officials to take immediate, emergency action to restore steady electricity.

Hyderabad Police launched a manhunt after senior advocate Khaja Moizuddin was killed in a planned hit-and-run attack.

Manhunt launched for Hyderabad advocate's killers

HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Police have launched a massive manhunt for four suspects following the targeted killing of senior Telangana High Court advocate Khaja Moizuddin. Four special police teams are tracking the suspects, who were spotted on security cameras.

The tragedy occurred near Moizuddin's home in the Masab Tank area. Around 4:45 a.m., as the advocate was getting into his car, a speeding SUV without a license plate hit him from behind and fled. Moizuddin suffered severe injuries and later died in the hospital.

While initially viewed as a hit-and-run accident, police registered a murder case after reviewing CCTV footage. The video showed the suspects waiting near his house, indicating a well-planned attack. Investigators believe the suspects monitored the area for three days before striking.

Moizuddin had practiced law for 35 years, and police suspect his murder is tied to ongoing legal disputes over Waqf land encroachments. The victim's family has named two specific individuals who previously threatened him.

According to the victim's son, Farhan, who is also a lawyer, his father had survived five past attacks. He revealed that one suspect even visited his father's office recently, delivering a chilling "last warning" to drop the land cases. Police are now using this crucial information to track down the killers.

Delhi Court acquits five in spying case

NEW DELHI

Delhi Court recently acquitted five men, including an Indian Army soldier and a BSF personnel, in a 2015 spying case. While clearing the accused, the court strongly criticized the prosecution, flagging major loopholes and sloppy investigative work.

The accused were all residents of Jammu and Kashmir, were arrested by the Delhi Police under the Official Secrets Act. The prosecution alleged that the main suspect, Kafait Ulla Khan, ran a pan-India network of informers, leaking sensitive border deployment details to a Pakistani agent named Faizal Ur Rehman.

However, Additional Sessions Judge Shefali Barnala Tandon ruled that the prosecution completely failed to prove its case.

The court noted that there was absolutely no evidence connecting the men to any foreign agent.

Furthermore, official reviews confirmed that the documents seized during the arrests were not actually classified or secret.

The judge also rejected the electronic evidence presented by the police, including WhatsApp chat transcripts and audio recordings on a CD.

Abhishek Banerjee seeks extension over property notice

KOLKATA

Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee has approached the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) requesting additional time to respond to a property valuation and demolition notice. The civic body recently issued the order regarding an allegedly illegal portion of his residence, "Santiniketan," located on Harish Mukherjee Road in South Kolkata.

However, through a formal letter sent by his lawyer, the Diamond Harbour MP has requested a ten-day extension. In such administrative matters, municipal corporations generally grant extensions when formally requested.

The KMC had previously dispatched notices to two of Banerjee's addresses being Kalighat Road and Harish Mukherjee Road. The corporation questioned whether proper municipal sanctions were obtained for recent building modifications. Officials also ordered the removal of unauthorized sections and placed nearly seventeen properties linked to him under surveillance.

The issue has already created a buzz in local political circles. Recently, when journalists questioned him about the municipal notices outside Mamata Banerjee's Kalighat residence, the Trinamool General Secretary briefly lost his composure. He told reporters to pinpoint exactly which section of his house was unauthorized before questioning him. Despite his sharp media reaction, Banerjee has chosen a legal approach by seeking more time to submit his official reply. Civic officials are expected to review the extension request before deciding on their next steps.

NEET accused Shubham Khairnar sent to judicial custody

NEW DELHI

The Rouse Avenue Court sent Shubham Khairnar, a prime accused in the high-profile NEET-UG 2026 paper leak case, to judicial custody until June 6. Khairnar was produced before the court by the Central Bureau of Investigation, which is currently leading the nationwide probe.

The development follows an intense briefing on May 21 by National Testing Agency Director General Abhishek Singh before a Parliamentary standing committee. Committee members raised sharp queries regarding security lapses and discussed ways to make the testing system more robust. Digvijaya Singh, Chairman of the Parliamentary panel, noted that all members are deeply concerned about the exam's integrity.

Nationwide Jain protests follow deadly MP accident

REWA

The nationwide Jain community announced a peaceful protests following a horrific hit-and-run accident in Madhya Pradesh that claimed the lives of two revered Jain Sadhvis.

The tragedy occurred on May 20 near the Rewa Collectorate during a traditional religious foot journey. A speeding car mowed down three walking Sadhvis. Shrutmati Mata died instantly at the scene. The other two victims, Upsamiti Mata and Arika Mata, were rushed to the hospital with critical injuries, where one later passed away.

The driver, Rashid Ali Shah, fled immediately with his family. However, police arrested him near Jabalpur after an intense 270-kilometer highway chase. Investigators have registered a case of rash driving and murder under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Public anger has intensified after media footage revealed the car swerving sharply off the center of the road to hit the women along the edge. This has raised deep suspicions within the community, with many demanding a thorough investigation into a potential conspiracy.

In response, major cities including Delhi, Mumbai, Bhopal, and Ahmedabad will support in the peaceful march. Community leaders and senior monks have appealed for calm while strongly emphasizing the need for better roadside security for barefoot ascetics. Rajya Sabha member Naveen Jain expressed solidarity with the grieving community, while the Madhya Pradesh government assured strict action against the accused. The tragedy has united the community in its resolve to protect its religious leaders.

CM Rekha Gupta ends Harsh Vihar blackout

NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has successfully resolved a long-pending electricity crisis in Harsh Vihar A-3, bringing immense relief to residents who had been waiting for power connections since 2018.

The breakthrough came during a public grievance hearing, or Jan Sunwai, where the Chief Minister personally met with members of thirty-six affected families. Upon hearing about their multi-year struggle to secure basic power access, Gupta took immediate administrative action and ordered municipal officials to prioritize the neighborhood's electrical needs.

Working in an urgent mission mode, local authorities swiftly installed a new power transformer in the area. Official teams have already started distributing new electricity connections to the local households, finally ending the community's eight-year wait.

This swift relief effort coincides with several large-scale infrastructure and environmental projects launched by the Delhi government. Chief Minister Gupta approved major development funds exceeding ₹1,000 crore under "Mission Yamuna." This extensive environmental campaign focuses heavily on cleaning the heavily polluted Najafgarh Drain, upgrading existing sewage treatment infrastructure, and modernizing water management strategies across the national capital.

Additionally, the Chief Minister conducted on-site field inspections of advanced air purification technologies deployed citywide alongside Cabinet Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa and MLA Harish Khurana.

CBSE announces refunds after post result portal glitch

NEW DELHI

Following intense backlash, the Central Board of Secondary Education announced it will refund Class 12 students who were overcharged due to technical glitches while applying for scanned copies of their answer sheets.

The board confirmed that system errors on May 21 and 22 caused wrong fee deductions. In a formal notice, CBSE stated that exact excess amounts will be credited back to the original payment methods automatically. For students who were undercharged, separate notifications will be sent to collect the balance. Crucially, all affected applicants will receive their scanned copies without needing to submit fresh requests.

This glitch intensified an already stressful situation for students. Many high achievers, including JEE Main qualifiers, voiced shock over unexpectedly low marks in science and numerical subjects. When the re-evaluation window opened, students shared images of their downloaded answer sheets online.

Why can't India buy cheap Iran oil: Sanjay Singh

BHUBANESWAR

Aam Aadmi Party MP Sanjay Singh launched a scathing attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, holding him directly responsible for the country's ongoing fuel crisis.

Speaking to reporters in Odisha, Singh highlighted the severe shortage of petrol, diesel, and gas, noting that fuel prices have jumped three times in the last ten days. He criticized the administration for lacking policies to protect public welfare, pointing out that citizens are currently forced to wait in long lines just to refuel their vehicles.

The lawmaker questioned why India cannot buy cheaper oil from Iran. "If China can purchase oil from Iran, why can't India?" Singh asked, suggesting that the Prime Minister is too scared of economic pressure from the United States to secure affordable energy supplies for Indian citizens. Singh argued that India's current reliance on oil.

AIADMK FACES NEW SETBACK AS VENUGOPAL RESIGNS

CHENNAI

The AIADMK suffered another major political setback as former Lok Sabha member Dr. P. Venugopal resigned from the party.

His sudden exit comes at a time when the opposition party is already battling intense internal dissent and a visible leadership crisis.

Dr. Venugopal, a prominent Scheduled Caste leader and two-time MP from Tiruvallur, previously served as the AIADMK Parliamentary Party leader. In an official statement, he explained that the party has steadily lost support among Scheduled Caste communities since the death of former Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa, leading to consecutive election defeats. He emphasized that the party urgently needs a more inclusive approach to survive.

Taking a direct swipe at AIADMK General Secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Venugopal criticized his leadership style and recent organizational decisions.

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT TRIBAL WELFARE OFFICER
CHAMARAJANAGAR DISTRICT, CHAMARAJANAGAR.
3rd Floor, Tribal welfare Dept. Building Mahaveera divine city Pragathi Nagar, Chamarajanagar 571313
Phone/Fax: 08226-226070 & 08226-226070 Email: dtwoffice.217@gmail.com

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

No. DTWO/OS/staff/Oursource/CR/2026-27 Date: 21-05-2026

For the year 2026-27, for the Outsource service of vacant posts of Teachers, Data Entry Operators, Drivers, Lecturers, Non-Teaching, FDA, SDA, Nurses, Group 'D' Employees, Cooks, Kitchen Assistants, Night Watchmen, Cleaning Staff in the offices, Residencial School, Ashrama School and Hostels to the Tribal Welfare Department under the jurisdiction of Chamarajanagar district in double envelope system. Short Term Tender Announcement through e-procurement will be issued on Date: 12.05.2026 to 11.06.2026 by 4.00PM on the website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in eligible organizations are invited to upload the relevant documents as per the terms and conditions of the tender.

For further information, the Office of the District Tribal Welfare Officer, # 3rd Floor, Tribal welfare Dept. Building Mahaveera divine city Pragathi Nagar, Chamarajanagar 571313 requested to be contacted during office hours.

District Tribal Welfare Officer
Chamarajanagar Dist. Chamarajanagar

NO: DIPR: CHANAGAR: 129:2026-27

QUICK READ

Cool comfort: Zoo's protect animals from heat

CH NEWS, RANCHI
As scorching heatwaves sweep the country, Ranchi's Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park has introduced special cooling measures for its sixteen hundred animals. Zoo veterinarian Dr. Omprakash Sahu stated that carnivores like tigers and leopards now have individual air coolers and bathing tubs. Birds are being housed under newly built shelters and fed hydrating seasonal fruits like watermelon, alongside essential multivitamins. Similar animal welfare initiatives are being rolled out nationwide, with zoos in Lucknow, Dehradun, and Bathinda installing water sprinklers, fountains, and protective tarpaulins to shield vulnerable wildlife from dangerous heat stress.

Soaring heat triggers animal bite surge

CH NEWS, SAMBHAL
Intense heatwave conditions in Sambhal have caused a worrying surge in dog and monkey bite cases. Officials revealed that extreme temperatures are making stray animals highly aggressive, with fifteen to twenty-five victims arriving daily at the district hospital. In response, the municipal council has deployed a ten-member team to capture dangerous animals and is planning a new birth control center. Following recent Supreme Court directives to clear strays from public spaces like hospitals, District Magistrate Ankit Khandelwal confirmed that the administration will assess aggressive animals and build local shelters to ensure public safety.

Police seize banned Chinese manjha in Delhi

CH NEWS, NEW DELHI
The Delhi Police Crime Branch arrested two individuals, including a prominent supplier, during a major raid in West Delhi's Uttam Nagar. Officers recovered over two thousand rolls of prohibited, hazardous synthetic kite string from their possession. The operation was launched following specific intelligence regarding the illegal storage and citywide distribution of Chinese manjha. In an unrelated security drive, North Delhi Police executed a massive cordon and search operation near Wazirabad. Triggered by resident complaints about dark patches attracting cri minals, forces set up chec kpoints to curb illegal firearms, narcotics, and vehicle thefts, promising more surprise checks soon.

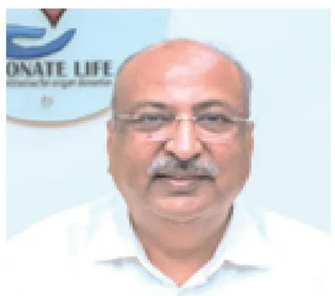
Padma honorees demand critical health reforms

Two Padma Shri awardees have urged critical healthcare and social reforms ahead of receiving India's high civilian honor.

NEW DELHI

On the eve of receiving their Padma Shri awards, two inspiring individuals made powerful appeals for critical healthcare and social reforms in India.

Nilesh Mandlewala, founder of "Donate Life," strongly advocated for organ donations from brain-dead patients. Dr. Suresh Hanagavadi, a haemophilia survivor, pushed for job reservations to support individuals battling the genetic bleeding disorder. Both will receive the nation's high civilian honor from President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan.



Expressing deep gratitude to the central government, Mandlewala shared that the honor belongs to the entire organ donation movement, including grieving families who chose to save others. Influenced by his father's past illness, Mandlewala has facilitated over 1,300 successful donations. He aims to ensure that by the centenary of India's independence in 2047, no patient dies awaiting a timely transplant.

Meanwhile, Dr. Hanagavadi highlighted the steep challenges of haemophilia. He explained that the condition frequently causes severe physical disabilities by adolescence, which can be prevented through timely prophylactic and non-factor therapies. Because the lifelong disease causes major educational and psychological disruptions, he urged the government to include job reservations for patients under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act.

Both awardees emphasized that their new national recognition brings a greater responsibility to serve. They hope to use their platform to establish advanced transplant centers nationwide and create a genuinely supportive environment where children with chronic conditions can safely thrive.

Bengal mandates holding centers for foreign prisoners

KOLKATA

The West Bengal government has directed all district magistrates to set up dedicated holding centres for apprehended foreigners and released foreign prisoners who are currently awaiting deportation or repatriation.

According to an official communication from the Home and Hill Affairs Department, the districts must take immediate steps to house individuals staying illegally in the country. This includes foreign nationals who have completed their prison sentences but remain in India awaiting formal deportation. The directive instructs local authorities to act strictly in accordance with the Ministry of Home Affairs framework regarding deportation procedures for illegal immigrants, specifically focusing on Bangladeshi nationals and Rohingyas.

This administrative move aligns with recent security shifts under the state's new government. Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari recently directed state police officials to hand over detected Bangladeshi immigrants directly to the Border Security Force, rather than presenting them in court.

In a related security measure, border fencing work has officially begun in the Phansidewa area of Siliguri subdivision. This development started after the West Bengal government handed over a crucial twenty-seven kilometers of land to the BSF, resolving a long-pending transfer to strengthen international border infrastructure. Local residents have expressed immense relief over these rapid border security measures.

Temperatures touch 47.4°c in Chhatarpur district

CHHATARPUR

A strict red alert for extreme heatwave conditions remains in place across Chhatarpur district, with temperatures crossing 41°C since the early morning hours.

Recent recordings show temperatures soaring to a punishing 47.4°C in areas like Khajuraho and Nowgong. The severe heat has forced local weekly markets into complete silence, leaving streets and commercial hubs entirely deserted. Residents are avoiding the outdoors, venturing out only for highly critical or urgent tasks.

"The impact of this weather can be felt everywhere," said Dilip Kshatriya, a local resident. To combat the scorching conditions and stay hydrated, people are heavily relying on water and fresh sugarcane juice.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department predicted that temperatures in the national capital would touch 44°C. The weather agency has strongly advised the public to limit outdoor activities during peak afternoon hours and avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight.

Health experts recommend consuming seasonal fruits with high water content, such as watermelon, cucumber, and cantaloupe, alongside leafy vegetables. Instead of dehydrating beverages like caffeine, alcohol, and sugary drinks, citizens are encouraged to drink traditional cooling options like shikanji and lassi to keep their body temperatures stable.

UP CM Yogi Adityanath ordered uninterrupted power supply amid heatwaves, while converting 89.23 lakh smart meters to postpaid billing and establishing dedicated grievance redressal camps.

CM Yogi demands uninterrupted in power distribution

LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ordered the state energy department to ensure an uninterrupted electricity supply across both rural and urban areas to combat the ongoing extreme heatwave.

Reviewing power arrangements alongside Energy Minister Arvind Kumar Sharma, the Chief Minister stated that electricity is vital for citizens, farmers, and industries. He demanded that the distribution system become highly consumer-centric and sensitive to public needs. Adityanath warned that any negligence regarding transformer breakdowns, feeder disruptions, or delayed complaint redressal would face strict accountability.

The directive comes amid soaring temperatures in April and May, which pushed average power demand up to 561 million units per day. To manage this load, the state transmission network currently operates over 60,858 circuit kilometers with minimal losses. The Chief Minister urged continuous monitoring of this modern network to prevent any sudden technical failures.

For better transparency, Adityanath instructed officials to provide timely updates to the public during unavoidable power outages. He also announced a major shift in the state's smart meter policy, converting 89.23 lakh smart prepaid meter consumers back to the traditional postpaid billing system. Starting June, these bills will be sent via SMS, WhatsApp, and email within the first ten days of each month.

Furthermore, dedicated grievance camps are being organized across Uttar Pradesh until June 30 to swiftly resolve smart meter complaints. The Chief Minister concluded by ordering strict monitoring of field officers to guarantee a reliable, consumer-friendly power supply.

Ghosh launches "Sarasari Shankar" outreach

SILIGURI

BJP MLA Shankar Ghosh hit the streets to hear local complai nts through his direct public out reach project, "Sarasari Shankar." Ghosh visited multiple municipal wards to connect face-to-face with residents and discuss long-standing neighborhood issues.

The lawmaker promised swift, organized action to fix these civic problems. He emphasized that regular public meetings help shape better government policies, ensuring that everyday citizens feel genuinely heard and supported by their leaders.

Switching to state matters, Ghosh also spoke about the recent suspension of three top police officers linked to the RG Kar investigation lapses. He firmly stated that the administration is dedicated to bringing back the rule of law in West Bengal. Ghosh assured reporters that a proper departmental inquiry is underway, promising that the legal system will act strictly based on the final investigation findings.

Ladakh LG announced a massive ecological restoration drive alongside pioneering geothermal energy exploration reforms.

800 acres of barren land restored in Ladakh

LEH

In a major environmental push, Ladakh Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena announced the launch of a massive ecological drive to restore nearly 800 acres of barren land at Spituk Village in Leh.

The ambitious project relies on cost-effective, innovative freshwater engineering. By channelizing surplus water from the recently revived Igoo-Phey Canal using simple machinery, authorities plan to hydrate soil that has been completely parched for hundreds of years. This freshwater discharge will actively flush out toxic salts, recharge depleted groundwater levels, and securely bind the soil. Ultimately, the process will trigger natural vegetation growth, turning unproductive wasteland into highly fertile, moisture-retaining ecosystems.

Speaking about the initiative, Saxena noted that the drive directly builds on the success of the region's previous "Project Him Sarovar." It also complements the broader revival of the Igoo-Phey Canal, which currently irrigates over 4,300 hectares of land. The Lieutenant Governor expressed optimism that the Spituk project will serve as a premier model for ecological transformation across the Union Territory, adding vital land for sustainable farming.

Alongside this green restoration, Ladakh is advancing with significant energy sector reforms. The region is set to launch its first-ever commercial exploration of geothermal energy as a clean, sustainable power source. To back this, Saxena approved a five-year extension of a pact with the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation to construct India's pioneer geothermal power facility in the Puga Valley. Located at an altitude over 14,000 feet, the extension ensures that crucial work halted by harsh winter conditions can finally finish.

TDP demands reforms amid "Cockroach Party" trend

VIJAYAWADA

A viral internet joke has turned into a massive political storm. The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) is now calling for urgent policy changes after the rapid rise of the satirical "Cockroach Janata Party" (CJP) movement.

The online craze started after a court hearing controversy. Chief Justice of India Surya Kant allegedly called underemployed social media activists "cockroaches" and "parasites." Although the judge later clarified that his words were misunderstood and meant only for people using fake law degrees, young people quickly embraced the insult. Indian youth turned the label into a badge of honor, creating a fake political party that gained millions of online followers. TDP leader Palla Srinivasa Rao stated that the movement highlights the real frustrations of unemployed youth. He promised to take these concerns directly to top policymakers. However, he also warned young citizens to remain responsible, hinting that external forces might be using social media to create chaos.

CM Rekha Gupta prioritizes farmer's well-being

NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta declared that rural growth and farmers wellbeing remain her administration's primary goals. Speaking at Jan Seva Sadan, Gupta met with agricul tural representatives to addre ss regional farming challen ges. Local farmers praised the government's recent choices to restart wheat buying at Mi nimum Support Price and expand solar energy across rural fields. Gupta noted that officials received strict orders to solve these agricultural issues quickly and with deep empathy.Meanwhile, the Chief Minister brought major relief to thirty-six families in East Delhi's Har sh Vihar.

IN THE COURT OF THE I ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC AT DODDABALLAPURA
CMis.No.257/2026
Petitioners: Sri.Munishamappa S/o Late Kuntappa Aged about 85 years, R/at Dasagondanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District and others. V/s
Respondent: Registrar of Birth and death The Tahshildar Doddaballapura Taluk. Doddaballapura.
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas the Petitioners has filed the above petition under Section 13 (3) And 14 Of Registration Of Births And Deaths Act, 1969 fo: seeking the death certificate of the father of petitioner No.1 and father in law of petitioner No.2 and grandfather of petitioner No.3 to 11 by name LATE KUNTAPPA S/O LATE MUNIYAPPA who died on 02.06.1970 at Dasagondanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.
In this regard it is hereby notice that whoever has interested in the said matter may appear in person or through an advocate duly authorized before the above said court on 01.07.2026. It default this matter with be heard and disposed off an ex-parte order.
Given ander any hard and seal of the court on the 20th day of may 2026.
By order of the court
Chief Ministeral Officer Prl. Civil Judge & JMFC at Doddaballapura
Advocate: **RD.Prakash,** Near Mathsya Darshini Hotel, Court Rod Vinayakanagar Doddaballapur Town-561203

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SOMASHEKHAR KAYAKAD S/o NINGAPPA KAYAKAD, R/o Kote Oni, Rattihalli, Haveri, Karnataka-581116, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SOMASHEKARAPPA N.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, VAKAPALLI RAVINDRA NADH S/o VAKAPALLI VISWANADHAM, R/o 33, 1st Floor, 6th A Cross, Trinity Enclave, Banjara Layout, Kalkere, Horamavu, Bangalore South, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560043, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as V RAVINDRANATH.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, G PURUSHOTHAMA S/o N GOPIKRISHNA, R/o 222, 3rd Cross, Laggere Main Road, F F Layout, Bangalore North, Peenya Small Industries, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560058, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as PURUSHOTHAMA G.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, M K CHANDRU alias CHANDRU M K S/o KRISHNAPRASAD, R/o 77, Ganagooru, Somawarpet, Ganagur, Kodagu, Karnataka-571236, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DHANANJAYYA K.

CHANGE OF NAME
It is for general information that I, SUBASH SAI INAPAKUTHIKA S/o MALLIKARJUNA SAI, R/o 309, Sangamitra Residency, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Opp Kothanuru Lake, K L V Layout, J P Nagar 8th Phase, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore South, Bangalore, Karnataka-560076, declared that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as SUBASH I and DIVYA I in my minor son namely AASHRIT RAM INAPAKUTHIKA aged 17 years in his CBSE class 10th educational documents. The actual name of mine and my wife are SUBASH SAI INAPAKUTHIKA and DIVYA INAPAKUTHIKA respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAHUL P BAFNA S/o PRAKASH F JAIN R/o 503, Parkwest Apartment, Magadi Road, Hosakere Road, Near ETA Mall, Binnypete, Magadi Road, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560023, have changed the name of my minor daughter RUKSHI NAYANA JAIN aged 15 years and she shall hereafter be known as RUKSHI SANVIKA JAIN.

FROM FARMS TO HEATHROW

Gujarat's premium mangoes take over London Heathrow

GANDHINAGAR

The heavenly fragrance of fresh Kesar and Alphonso mangoes is filling the cargo bays of London Heathrow Airport. Gujarat's cult-favorite fruits have officially conquered international markets, becoming a highly sought-after luxury for both homesick Indians and European consumers.

Importer Digvijaysinh Gohil shares that overseas buyers willingly purchase these premium fruits regardless of the price. While South American mangoes look attractive, experts note they are often bland compared to the unmatched sweetness and aroma of India's "kings of flavor."

This global success relies heavily on strict technology and quality control overseen by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). At advanced pack houses like Kunj Cold Ware Solution in Rajkot, mangoes undergo an intense 36-hour scientific journey.

The sophisticated process includes careful harvesting, sap removal to increase shelf life, and a vital hot water treatment between 48°C and 52°C. This treatment eliminates harmful pests and fruit flies while activating natural ripening. Immediately after, the fruits are rapidly chilled in cold water to keep the skin firm and develop a beautiful golden-yellow color.

Thanks to modern Farmer-Producer Organisations (FPOs), local growers can now bypass traditional middlemen to export independently and earn foreign currency directly.

Packhouse owner Sameer Sapariya actively helps farmers adopt these export standards. Looking ahead, local exporters plan to use this identical high-tech infrastructure starting this September to ship premium vegetables like green chillies and okra to western supermarkets, expanding Gujarat's global footprint.

QUICK READ

Chinese ship leaves after tense standoff near Taiwan

TAIPEI

A Chinese coast guard ship left waters near Taiwan's strategically located Pratas Islands at the top of the South China Sea on Sunday following a tense standoff and verbal sparring between the coast guards, Taiwan's Coast Guard said. China claims democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory, a position the government in Taipei rejects. China has pressured Taiwan by increasing its military presence around the island, and Taipei is on high alert for further Chinese actions after President Xi Jinping discussed Taiwan with U.S. President Donald Trump in Beijing this month.

'Evict ousted oppn leadership from headquarters'

ANKARA

Turkish authorities ordered police to evict the leadership of the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) from their headquarters on Sunday, enforcing a court ruling that reinstated the former leader and fuelled a political crisis. Riot police and crowds gathered outside the gates of CHP headquarters in the Turkish capital after the Ankara governor's office issued the order to remove CHP members aligned with ousted leader Ozgur Ozel. A Turkish appeals court on Thursday annulled the results of a CHP congress at which Ozel was elected in 2023, citing unspecified irregularities. In Ozel's place, the court reinstated former CHP Chairman Kemal Kilicdaroglu, who lost to President Tayyip Erdogan in elections earlier that year.

Israeli fire kills parents, their infant in Gaza

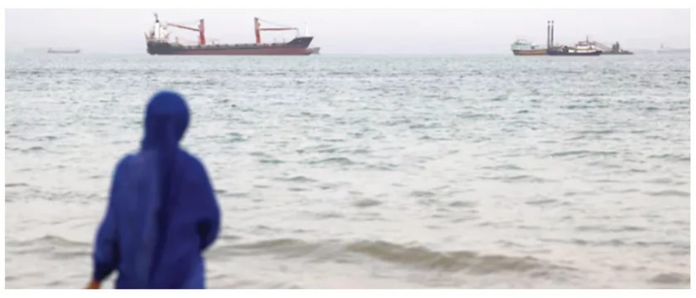
CAIRO

An Israeli airstrike on an apartment in a refugee camp in central Gaza on Sunday left three people dead, including a six-month-old child. Medics named the three who died in the Nuseirat refugee camp as Mohammad Abu Mallouh, the infant's father, Alaa Zaqlan, the mother, and their child, Osama. Later on Sunday, Israeli gunfire killed a Palestinian man in the north of the enclave in Jabalia refugee camp, medics said. At the morgue in Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir Al-Balah, relatives of three dead family members arrived to bid farewell to their white-shrouded bodies. A man sleeping along with his wife and their 6-month infant son in their bed. The rocket fell on his bed, and it took him, with his wife and son, leaving behind six young girls, they said.

US-Iran inch closer to deal to end war

The proposed peace deal seeks to reopen strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical energy transit routes, amid lingering disagreements.

WASHINGTON



The United States and Iran have largely negotiated a memorandum of understanding aimed at ending months of conflict and reopening the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, according to US President Donald Trump.

President Donald Trump announced on social media that Washington and Tehran had made significant progress toward a peace arrangement that could soon reopen the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical energy transit routes. The closure of the strait since February has disrupted global oil supplies and sharply increased fuel and commodity prices worldwide.

Trump stated that the final details of the proposed deal were currently under discussion and that an official announcement could come shortly. Reports from American and Iranian media suggested that the memorandum outlines a phased framework to end the conflict, restore maritime traffic through the strait, and ease U.S. restrictions on Iran's oil exports and ports.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who is currently visiting India, also hinted that important developments could emerge within hours. According to a senior Iranian source, the memorandum would require approval from Iran's Supreme National Security Council before being forwarded to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei for final authorization.

However, Iranian media indicated that disagreements still remain over certain clauses. Iran's Tasnim news agency reported that Tehran would not finalize the agreement if the United States continued to create obstacles during negotiations.

The proposed framework reportedly includes commitments from Iran not to pursue nuclear weapons, while allowing the country to continue certain civilian nuclear activities. Discussions regarding Iran's stockpile of enriched uranium are expected to continue for another 30 to 60 days under the draft arrangement.

The agreement is also expected to include assurances that neither side nor their allies would launch attacks against one another. In exchange, the United States may lift some sanctions and end its blockade on Iranian ports, enabling Iran to freely sell oil again.

Despite optimism surrounding the talks, experts cautioned that a full recovery in global oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz could take until 2027. The prolonged disruption has already contributed to rising costs of fuel, fertilizer, and food across international markets.

Meanwhile, Israeli politician Benny Gantz warned against linking any broader regional ceasefire arrangements with ongoing military operations involving Hezbollah in Lebanon.

Suicide car bomb attack on Pak train kills 24

The Balochistan Liberation Army has claimed responsibility for the attack

ISLAMABAD

At least 24 people were killed and around 70 others injured after a powerful bomb blast struck a shuttle train carrying Pakistani security personnel and their families in the southwestern province of Balochistan on Sunday.

According to provincial government and security officials, the explosion targeted a shuttle train transporting passengers from Quetta's cantonment area to connect with the long-distance Jaffar Express service. The blast occurred near a railway line in a residential part of the city and caused widespread destruction.

Pakistan's railways ministry stated that the explosion derailed the train engine and three coaches, while two additional coaches overturned due to the force of the blast. Emergency services and security personnel quickly reached the site, cordoning off the area as rescue operations continued throughout the day.

A security official said the attack appeared to involve an explosives-laden vehicle that struck one of the train's bogies. In addition to passengers on the train, several residents of a nearby apartment building were reportedly among the dead and injured due to the intensity of the explosion.

Images from the scene showed burnt vehicles, mangled railway coaches, shattered buildings, and thick smoke rising above the wreckage. Rescue workers were seen searching through debris while ambulances transported injured victims to hospitals in Quetta.

The Baloch Liberation Army, a separatist militant organization active in Balochistan, claimed responsibility for the bombing and described it as a suicide attack. However, independent verification of the claim was not immediately possible.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif strongly condemned the attack, calling it a heinous bomb explosion in a statement posted on social media platform X. He expressed condolences to the families of the victims and said the entire nation stood in solidarity with the people of Balochistan during this difficult time.

Balochistan, Pakistan's largest but least populated province, has witnessed years of insurgent violence involving separatist groups that accuse the central government of exploiting the region's natural resources without adequately benefiting local communities. The province borders both Iran and Afghanistan and remains strategically important because of its mineral wealth and major infrastructure projects.

The latest bombing follows several major attacks in the region over recent months. In March 2025, militants from the same separatist group hijacked the Jaffar Express train and held hundreds of passengers hostage before security forces launched a military operation to end the standoff. According to the military, that incident resulted in the deaths of 21 hostages, four soldiers, and all 33 attackers.

Explosions echoed throughout the city after Ukraine's air force warned that Russia could deploy its Oreshnik hypersonic missile

RUSSIA BATTERS KYIV WITH WAVE OF MISSILES, DRONES

KVIY

Russia carried out one of its heaviest attacks on Kyiv and surrounding regions since the beginning of the war, launching hundreds of drones and missiles overnight and firing an Oreshnik hypersonic missile near the Ukrainian capital.

The overnight bombardment began shortly after midnight and continued for several hours, sending residents rushing into underground shelters and metro stations across Kyiv. Explosions echoed throughout the city after Ukraine's air force warned that Russia could deploy its Oreshnik hypersonic missile, a powerful weapon capable of carrying nuclear warheads and striking targets thousands of kilometres away.

According to Ukrainian officials, this was only the third time Russia had used the Oreshnik missile since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine began in February 2022. President Zelenskiy said the missile struck Bila Tserkva, a city located about 64 kilometres from Kyiv with a population of around 200,000 people.

Ukraine's air force reported that Russia launched a total of 90 missiles and 600 drones during the attack. In Kyiv alone, at least two people were killed and dozens were injured, while additional casualties were reported in nearby regions. Mayor Vitali Klitschko described the night as terrifying and said emergency workers were continuing rescue operations, extinguishing fires, and clearing debris from damaged buildings.

Several residential complexes, schools, and public facilities suffered heavy damage during the strikes. Windows were shattered in Ukraine's Foreign Ministry building, and destruction was also reported near Independence Square, one of Kyiv's most important landmarks.

Residents described scenes of panic as explosions rocked the capital throughout the night. Sixty-two-year-old Nataliia Zvarych said she fled to a metro station as soon as the attacks began. She explained that frightened civilians remained underground for hours while listening to repeated blasts above the city.

President Zelenskiy accused Russia of deliberately targeting water supply infrastructure ahead of the summer season in an effort to create additional hardship for civilians. He urged the United States, Europe, and other allies to respond strongly and ensure that Russia faced consequences for the attacks.

Russia's Defence Ministry stated that the assault was retaliation for alleged Ukrainian strikes on civilian targets inside Russia. Moscow claimed it had targeted Ukrainian military command centres, intelligence facilities, air bases, and defence industry sites using Oreshnik, Iskander, Kinzhal, and Zircon missiles.

Although Russia denies intentionally attacking civilians, thousands of people have been killed during repeated bombardments of Ukrainian cities since the war began more than four years ago.

20 feared trapped after building collapses

PHILIPPINES

Rescue teams in the Philippines are racing against time after a building under construction collapsed in the city of Angeles on Sunday, trapping more than 20 people beneath the rubble. Officials said at least five people have been confirmed trapped, while many others are believed to still be missing under the debris.

The multi-storey structure collapsed in Angeles city, located north of the Philippine capital Manila, sending huge slabs of concrete and twisted steel crashing onto surrounding areas. Rescue workers were seen climbing over unstable debris covered with construction netting as they searched for survivors trapped beneath the wreckage.

White House security checkpoint shooter shot dead

WASHINGTON

The shooting occurred at a heavily guarded checkpoint located close to the White House complex, triggering an immediate response from Secret Service personnel stationed in the area.

As per a US Secret Service statement, the suspect approached the checkpoint carrying a bag before suddenly removing a firearm and opening fire on officers.

Security personnel responded within seconds, returning fire and striking the gunman. The suspect was quickly taken to a nearby hospital for emergency treatment but later died from his injuries, officials confirmed.

They said that no law enforcement officers were injured during the confrontation. However, one bystander was hit by gunfire. Officials have not yet determined whether the civilian was struck by bullets fired by the suspect or during the exchange of gunfire between the attacker and security officers.

Law enforcement sources identified the suspect as an emotionally disturbed individual who had previously been issued a stay-away order. Investigators are continuing to examine the circumstances leading up to the attack, including the suspect's background and possible motives.

The White House was placed under heightened security immediately after the shooting, with additional officers deployed around the area as emergency services responded to the scene. President Donald Trump was reportedly inside the White House at the time of the incident but was not harmed.

China revises Shanxi coal mine death toll to 82

BEIJING

Chinese authorities have revised the death toll from a massive coal mine explosion in northern China to 82, after earlier reports incorrectly stated that at least 90 people had been killed.

The gas explosion at the Liushenyu coal mine in Shanxi province is now considered the country's deadliest mining accident in nearly two decades.

The deadly explosion occurred late on Friday at the Liushenyu coal mine located in Qinyuan county of Shanxi province, a major coal-producing region in northern China. Local officials confirmed during a press conference night that 82 workers had lost their lives in the incident, while two others remained missing underground.

Authorities explained that the earlier death toll released by state media had been incorrectly calculated because of chaotic conditions at the disaster site. Guo Xiaofang, the head of Qinyuan county, said confusion over the number of workers present underground at the time of the blast led to the inaccurate reporting.

According to officials, 247 miners were working underground when the gas explosion occurred. In addition to those killed, at least 128 workers suffered injuries and were taken to hospitals for treatment. Another 35 workers escaped without injuries.

Despite the revised number, the tragedy remains China's deadliest mining disaster since 2009, when a gas explosion at the Xinxing Mine in Heilongjiang province killed 108 people. The latest incident has once again highlighted long-standing concerns about safety standards in China's coal mining industry, which continues to play a crucial role in the nation's economy and energy supply.

The Liushenyu mine is operated by the Shanxi Tongzhou Coal Coking Group. Following the disaster, authorities ordered the closure of all four mines owned by the company. Senior company executives were also detained as part of an ongoing investigation into the cause of the explosion and possible safety violations.

China's state-run People's Daily newspaper published a strongly worded editorial calling for greater attention to workplace safety and warning against prioritising economic growth over human lives.

Torrential rains flood China, 3 dead, 17 missing

CHONGQING

Severe flooding triggered by sudden extreme rainfall in southwestern China's Chongqing municipality has left three people dead and 17 others missing, as per reports.

China's state-run Xinhua news agency reported that the death toll from the flooding had risen to three by Sunday afternoon, while rescue teams continued searching for 17 people who remain unaccounted for. The flooding occurred after intense rainfall swept through Chongqing's Yongchuan district, overwhelming local drainage systems and rapidly inundating residential and public areas.

Officials said the sudden downpour continued for several hours, created dangerous conditions across the district. Floodwaters submerged roads, disrupted transportation, and damaged homes and public infrastructure in multiple locations. Emergency response teams were deployed immediately to evacuate residents trapped in flooded neighborhoods and conduct search operations for missing persons.

THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY

Bahrain sentences 9 to life over alleged IRGC links

BAHRAIN

According to Bahrain's state news agency, the court found the defendants guilty of cooperating with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), in activities described as hostile and terrorist operations targeting Bahrain's national security.

The authorities stated that the convicted individuals were involved in collecting intelligence on sensitive locations within Bahrain and helping arrange financial transfers connected to the alleged operations. Officials did not publicly disclose the specific sites that were targeted or provide further details regarding the financial activities mentioned in the court proceedings.

The ruling follows a broader security crackdown announced earlier this year by Bahrain's interior ministry. On May 9, Bahraini authorities revealed that 41 individuals had been arrested in connection with alleged ties to the IRGC. Officials claimed that security agencies had uncovered an organized group linked to Iran's powerful military organization.

Investigations conducted by Bahrain's public prosecutor also reportedly included cases involving expressions of support for Iranian military actions in the region. Authorities argued that such activities threatened national stability and security during a period of heightened geopolitical tensions in the Gulf.

Regional relations have become increasingly strained since the outbreak of conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel earlier this year. Following military strikes launched against Iran on February 28, Tehran responded by targeting locations in Bahrain and other Gulf Arab countries that host American military bases.

Bahrain is home to key strategic facilities used by the United States military, making the country an important security partner in the Gulf region.

QUICK READ

'Nissan unit scraps plan to make EV powertrains in UK'

TOKYO

Nissan Motor subsidiary JATCO has scrapped its plan to make electric vehicle (EV) powertrains in Sunderland, Britain, in light of sluggish demand for Nissan's EVs in Europe, the Nikkei business daily reported on Sunday. In January 2025, JATCO announced a plan to invest 48.7 million pounds ($65.39 million) to make up to 340,000 units a year of EV powertrains that integrate the motor, inverter and reducer at a Sunderland plant for Nissan. TOKYO, May 24 (Reuters) - Nissan Motor subsidiary JATCO has scrapped its plan to make electric vehicle (EV) powertrains in Sunderland, Britain, in light of sluggish demand for Nissan's EVs in Europe, the Nikkei business daily reported on Sunday. In January 2025, JATCO announced a plan to invest 48.7 million pounds ($65.39 million) to make up to 340,000 units a year of EV powertrains that integrate the motor, inverter and reducer at a Sunderland plant for Nissan.

China included in $200-billion CPU market: Nvidia

TAIPEI

Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang said on Saturday that his forecast of a $200 billion market for CPUs includes China, signalling Nvidia still sees significant long-term demand in the market amid ongoing US-China technology tensions. Central processing units have taken centre stage as companies and businesses gravitate towards agentic AI - systems that perform autonomous functions - broadening demand beyond graphics processing units, or GPUs, that are used to train large models. Huang aimed to assure investors that the world's most valuable company can keep up its blockbuster growth with the help of a broad base of customers and that new products will help it beat the $1 trillion in sales it has forecast for its flagship AI chips.

Delivery Hero confirms takeover offer from Uber

FRANKFURT

German food delivery service Delivery Hero confirmed it had received a takeover offer from rival Uber valuing the company at 33 euros ($38.29) per share, it said in a statement on Saturday. The offer represents a discount of about 1.76% from Delivery Hero's last close on Friday, according to LSEG data. Delivery Hero said last week its U.S. rival had increased its holding to about 19.5% of issued capital from roughly 7%, becoming its largest shareholder. The stake is worth around 1.7 billion euros, according to Reuters calculations. The German group's CEO Niklas Oestberg said last week he would step down, following campaigns by several large shareholders for a strategic review.

LIC emerges as highest profit-making fin firm in Q4

The insurance giant also retained its top position among Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in terms of quarterly profit

MUMBAI

State-owned Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has emerged as the highest profit-making company in India's financial sector during the January-March quarter of FY26, reporting a net profit of over Rs 23,400 crore.

The insurance giant also retained its top position among Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in terms of quarterly profit during the fourth quarter of FY26.

LIC last week reported a 23 per cent rise in consolidated net profit to Rs 23,420 crore for the March quarter, compared to Rs 19,013 crore in the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

The insurer outperformed major banking players including State Bank of India and HDFC Bank during the quarter.

SBI posted a net profit of Rs 19,684 crore, while HDFC Bank reported a profit of Rs 19,221 crore in the fourth quarter, according to financial results filed on stock exchanges.

However, on an annual basis, SBI remained ahead of LIC in overall profitability for FY26. India's largest lender reported a net profit of Rs 80,032 crore during the financial year, while LIC recorded a yearly profit of Rs 57,419 crore.

Private sector lender ICICI Bank also delivered strong earnings with an annual profit of Rs 50,147 crore, whereas HDFC Bank's FY26 profit stood at Rs 74,670 crore.

Among other public sector companies, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) posted a net profit of Rs 11,378 crore in the March quarter.

Coal India followed with a profit of Rs 10,839 crore, while Power Finance Corporation (PFC) earned Rs 8,598 crore and NTPC reported a quarterly profit of Rs 8,747 crore.

Other CPSEs also reported healthy earnings during the quarter. Power Grid Corporation of India posted a profit of Rs 4,546 crore, while REC Limited reported a net profit of Rs 3,375 crore.

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) registered a profit of Rs 1,680 crore.

Following LIC's strong quarterly performance, the company's shares surged nearly 5 per cent in opening trade on the BSE on May 23, touching Rs 839 apiece.

STRATEGIC GROWTH METRICS

- **PRODUCT MIX:** The share of individual non-par products in the Annual Premium Equivalent (APE) jumped to 35.11%.
- **SOLVENCY RATIO:** Improved to 2.35 from 2.11, reflecting robust financial health.
- **EXPENSE RATIO:** Saw a positive decline to 11.91% compared to 12.42% in the previous year.

Q4 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **NET PROFIT:** Rs 23,420 crore (up from Rs 19,013 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year).
- **BANKING COMPARISON:** Surpassed State Bank of India (Rs 19,684 crore) and HDFC Bank (Rs 19,221 crore) in quarterly earnings.
- **ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM):** Reached Rs 57,29,396 crore as of March 31, 2026, marking a 5% year-on-year increase.

Centre to launch Rs 32.15 crore fisheries projects in Northeast on May 25

MUMBAI

The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying will organise the Regional Review Meeting: Northeastern Region 2026 in Aizawl, Mizoram, on May 25, with Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh set to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for fisheries projects worth approximately Rs 32.15 crore.

According to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, the regional review meeting will focus on evaluating the progress of ongoing schemes and discussing future strategies for the development of the fisheries, livestock, and dairy sectors in the Northeast.

The event will be chaired by Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh and attended by Ministers of State SP Singh Baghel and George Kurian. Ministers responsible for fisheries and animal husbandry from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura are also expected to participate. Officials said the programme would be conducted in a hybrid format to allow wider participation from state governments and departmental representatives.

Senior officials from both the Centre and Northeastern states, including secretaries from the Department of Fisheries and the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, will review the implementation of various government initiatives aimed at improving productivity, infrastructure, and livelihood opportunities in the region.

The ministry stated that the fisheries projects worth around Rs 32.15 crore are intended to encourage self-sustained growth by promoting modern aquaculture practices, strengthening market infrastructure, and providing support to local beneficiaries engaged in fisheries-related activities.

During the programme, the ministry will also launch a baseline village-level survey to expand the coverage of Multipurpose Dairy Co-operative Societies across the Northeastern states. Officials said the initiative is aimed at improving dairy sector participation and strengthening cooperative networks in rural areas.

The ministry will also launch a baseline village-level survey to expand the coverage of Multipurpose Dairy Co-op Societies across Northeast

As part of awareness and outreach activities, an educational film on African Swine Fever will be released along with a booklet titled Good Husbandry Practices in Pig Farming. These initiatives are expected to help farmers adopt better livestock management practices and improve disease prevention measures.

The event will also feature the launch of MULCO Cow Ghee by the Mizoram Milk Producers Co-operative Union Limited. In addition, authorities will inaugurate a Mizo Café and a Farmers Producer Organisation office-cum-sale outlet to support local agricultural and dairy products.

Certificates, including Fisheries Kisan Credit Cards, will be distributed to beneficiaries from various Northeastern states. The ministry will also recognise achievements in the sector by presenting awards to outstanding fisheries startups and fisheries cooperatives.

Officials said Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh is expected to interact directly with beneficiaries during the programme to better understand the challenges faced by fish farmers, dairy producers, and livestock owners in the region.

The project is expected to improve India's ability to handle international cargo traffic while increasing its strategic presence in the Andaman sea and Southeast Asia

'Great Nicobar Project: India's strategic frontier in the Indian Ocean'

NEW DELHI

The Great Nicobar Project, currently under development, is being viewed as one of India's most significant strategic and economic initiatives in recent decades.

The ambitious Great Nicobar Project is designed to establish a large transshipment port and related infrastructure near the East–West international shipping corridor, a route that carries a major share of global maritime trade. Located in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the project is expected to improve India's ability to handle international cargo traffic while increasing its strategic presence in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Asia.

According to assessments highlighted in international reports, the port's location provides a major geographical advantage. The proposed facility lies only around 40 nautical miles from the main global shipping route connecting Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. In addition, the area offers a natural water depth of more than 20 metres, making it suitable for large cargo vessels and container ships.

Officials and strategic experts believe the project could significantly reduce India's dependence on foreign ports such as Colombo in Sri Lanka, Singapore, and Port Klang in Malaysia for cargo transshipment. At present, a substantial portion of Indian cargo is routed through these foreign ports before reaching international markets, increasing both costs and strategic vulnerability.

The project also carries major geopolitical importance because of its proximity to the Strait of Malacca, one of the world's most critical maritime chokepoints. The waterway handles a significant share of global trade and is especially important for China's energy imports and international commerce.

An article published in the South China Morning Post highlighted the strategic implications of the project, particularly in relation to what analysts often describe as China's Malacca dilemma. The term refers to Beijing's concern that a large portion of its crude oil imports and maritime trade passes through a narrow sea passage that could become vulnerable during geopolitical tensions or conflict.

Former Indian Army officer and military diplomat Brigadier Sanjay Iyer described the Great Nicobar Project as one of India's most consequential strategic investments in decades. He stated that the initiative would provide India with a stronger and more continuous presence in the eastern Indian Ocean region while improving monitoring capabilities over maritime movement.

Government expands verification of CNG, LNG, Hydrogen dispensers

NEW DELHI

In a bid to improve efficiency and support the growing adoption of cleaner fuels across the country, the government on Sunday said it has amended the Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2013, to further strengthen India's legal metrology ecosystem and expand the country's verification infrastructure for weights and measures.

A key feature of the amendment is the expansion of the scope of government-approved test centres (GATCs) to include verification and re-verification of additional fuel dispensing systems. The move is expected to enhance the availability of verification services.

The amendments empower state governments to notify additional categories of weights and measures for verification through GATCs under their respective Rules.

The verification fee for petrol and diesel dispensers has been fixed at Rs 5,000 per nozzle, while the fee for CNG, LPG, LNG and Hydrogen dispensers has been fixed at Rs 10,000 per nozzle.

Under the amended rules, five categories of dispensing systems have been added to the list of instruments that can be verified by GATCs: Petrol/Diesel Dispensers; CNG Dispensers; LPG Dispensers LNG Dispensers; and Hydrogen Dispensers.

With the inclusion of these instruments, GATCs can now undertake verification and re-verification of a total of 23 categories of weights and measures under the Legal Metrology framework, said the Department of Consumer Affairs in a statement.

GATCs are approved facilities with the required infrastructure and technical expertise to undertake verification and re-verification of specified weights and measures under the Legal Metrology Act and Rules.

By involving qualified private laboratories and industries, the GATC framework helps expand the country's verification capacity and improve access to verification services.

'No fuel shortage in country, PSU oil firms managing supply smoothly'

NEW DELHI

Amid concerns over fuel availability in some areas, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Marketing Director Sukhmal Kumar Jain on Sunday said there is no shortage of petrol or diesel in the country, adding that public sector oil marketing companies are fully managing fuel consumption and supply.

Speaking exclusive to IANS, Jain said that public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) operate around 85,000 retail outlets out of the nearly one lakh fuel stations across the country, ensuring steady fuel availability.

I don't think there is any shortage because as far as the consumption part is concerned, it is being fully managed by the public sector oil marketing companies, he said.

At least I can say that since they hold the larger share out of 1 lakh-odd retail outlets, around 85,000 are from public sector oil marketing companies, he added.

So stray cases may be there due to various other reasons, but otherwise there is no shortage, whatever I understand in this area, Jain told IANS.

Commenting on the current market situation, Jain said global crude oil prices and other associated costs remain highly volatile.

He noted that shipping costs, insurance expenses, and fluctuations in exchange rates have significantly impacted oil companies.

SIKKIM'S IDENTITY-ASPIRATIONS

PM shares Scindia's article celebrating Sikkim's heritage

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday shared an article written by Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia as Sikkim marked its 51st year of statehood. In the article, Scindia reflected on the cultural, spiritual, and natural significance of Khangchendzonga, describing it as the protector of Sikkim's land, memory, and consciousness.

Sharing his thoughts on social media platform X, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the article beautifully captured the enduring importance of Khangchendzonga in shaping Sikkim's identity and aspirations. He noted that the symbolism of the mountain's five treasures continues to inspire the state's path toward inclusive development and progress.

In his article, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia described Khangchendzonga as more than just a Himalayan mountain massif. He wrote that the towering peaks, often wrapped in clouds, snow, and traditional Lungta prayer flags, hold deep spiritual and cultural significance for the people of Sikkim. Nearly one-fourth of the state's land falls within the Khangchendzonga National Park, underlining its ecological importance as well.

Scindia referred to the long-standing belief among indigenous communities that Khangchendzonga serves as a sacred civilisational force protecting the land and collective memory of Sikkim. He cited the interpretation of the revered Lama Lhatsun Chenpo, who poetically described the five summits of the mountain as the Five Treasures of the Eternal Snow. According to the legend, each peak symbolizes a treasure, including gold, silver, gems, grains, and holy scriptures.

The minister said his recent visit to Sikkim during the statehood celebrations gave renewed meaning to this ancient lore. He explained that the first treasure, gold, represents the people of Sikkim and their social harmony. Scindia praised the unity among the Lepcha, Bhutia, and Nepali communities, saying the state demonstrates how lasting development is built upon strong and confident communities.

He further described the second treasure, silver, as symbolizing Sikkim's extraordinary natural beauty and biodiversity. He recalled witnessing the Teesta and Rangeet rivers flowing through dense forests and mist-covered landscapes, while tea gardens and cherry trees added to the scenic richness of the region.

According to Scindia, the third treasure, gems, reflects Sikkim's spiritual and cultural wealth. He highlighted the state's monasteries, the Buddha Park at Ravangla, and the Bhaleydhunga skywalk as symbols of its deep-rooted heritage. He also noted the sacred association of the land with Guru Padmasambhava, emphasizing that Sikkim has preserved a rare sense of peace and spirituality in a rapidly changing world.

The article presents Sikkim as a state where tradition and modern aspirations exist side by side, offering a model of balanced development rooted in cultural pride, environmental conservation, and social unity.

Sachin's emotional note praises Arjun's patience after LSG Debut

MUMBAI

Cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar expressed pride in his son Arjun Tendulkar after the youngster made a promising debut for Lucknow Super Giants in their final league-stage match of the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) season.

Taking to Instagram after Lucknow's seven-wicket defeat against Punjab Kings, Sachin penned an emotional message highlighting Arjun's patience, dedication and determination during a season in which he had to wait until the final game to earn an opportunity.

"Well done, Arjun. Proud of the way you've carried yourself through this season, always believing in your ability, staying patient, working hard quietly, and remaining positive despite having to wait for your opportunity till the very last match," Sachin wrote.

The batting great also emphasised the importance of perseverance in cricket, noting that the sport tests a player's temperament as much as talent.

"Cricket tests patience as much as skill, and you handled both beautifully today. Keep your feet on the ground, and continue being in love with the game like you always have. Love you always," he added.

Arjun, 26, delivered a respectable performance with the ball on his IPL debut for Lucknow. Introduced by captain Rishabh Pant immediately after the powerplay, the left-arm pacer bowled four overs and returned figures of 1 for 36.

He nearly struck in his opening over when Pant was unable to hold on to a difficult chance offered by opener Prabhsimran Singh. However, Arjun eventually got his reward in the 15th over, trapping Prabhsimran leg-before wicket with a well-executed yorker.

Arjun bowled the seventh, ninth, 15th and 17th overs, showing control and composure despite the pressure surrounding his debut. Having previously represented Mumbai Indians, he has often been under intense scrutiny because of his famous surname.

Cricket legend applauds son Arjun's perseverance, composure and promising IPL debut.

Reports suggest some members of the Lucknow support staff had been keen to give Arjun an opportunity earlier in the season. Although that chance came only in the team's final match, the all-rounder made a solid impression, earning praise from fans and, most importantly, from one of cricket's greatest-ever players his father.

Sooryavanshi's fielding under no cloud, says Royals coach Penney

MUMBAI

Rajasthan Royals assistant coach Trevor Penney has firmly dismissed speculation surrounding the fielding abilities of teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, clarifying that the youngster's role as an Impact Substitute has been a tactical decision rather than a reflection of any weakness in the field.

The 15-year-old prodigy, who recently earned a place in the India A cricket team squad for the upcoming tour of Sri Lanka, has mostly featured as a batting specialist for Rajasthan Royals during the ongoing IPL season. His limited appearances on the field had led to questions from observers about his athleticism and fielding standards.

Addressing those concerns ahead of Rajasthan's crucial league fixture, Penney made it clear that Sooryavanshi is a capable and accomplished fielder.

"He is a very good fielder. He has got great hands. He moves well. He dives. He anticipates. He has got all that," Penney said.

The former India fielding coach explained that the Royals management has carefully managed the teenager's workload throughout the tournament, preferring to keep him physically and mentally fresh for his primary responsibility at the top of the batting order.

According to Penney, using Sooryavanshi as an Impact Substitute has often given the team a fresher batter during challenging run chases and crucial phases of matches.

"Sometimes with him opening the batting, him coming in in the second innings being fresh, it's worked for us," Penney noted. "There is no specific reason why he is a bad fielder or we are not playing him in the field. It's nothing to do with that."

He added that team combinations and match situations have occasionally required the presence of more experienced fielders, but stressed that the decision has always been strategic rather than performance-related.

Penney also praised the youngster's cricketing intelligence and maturity beyond his years. Recalling a recent innings, he highlighted Sooryavanshi's ability to assess situations rather than relying solely on aggressive stroke play.

"You saw in the last game he had 10 off 11 balls and he was so determined to win that game," Penney said.

Stayed true to our core values, says Nayar as KKR stages fightback

KOLKATA

Kolkata Knight Riders head coach Abhishek Nayar has credited the team's unwavering belief in its philosophy and players for its late resurgence in IPL 2026, saying that sticking to core values helped the defending champions remain competitive despite a difficult phase during the season.

Nayar said the management resisted the temptation to make drastic changes when results were not going their way and instead focused on maintaining trust within the group.

"If you look at the messaging during the struggling phase and now, it has not changed much. The trust in the players and the way we view them remain the same," Nayar said.

"It was important for us to stay true to our core values as a team and as individuals," he added.

Kolkata endured a mixed campaign in which inconsistent performances threatened to derail its playoff hopes. However, the team managed to recover in the latter half of the tournament, keeping itself in contention through improved performances and a more settled approach.

Nayar emphasised that the turnaround was not the result of any dramatic shift in strategy but rather the product of patience and confidence in the squad's abilities. According to him, maintaining composure during challenging periods was crucial in helping players perform freely and regain momentum.On the other side, Delhi Capitals batting coach Ian Bell admitted that inconsistency had been the defining feature of his team's disappointing IPL campaign.

Bell pointed to Delhi's wildly contrasting performances as evidence of a side that often struggled to sustain momentum."We have shown this season that we can score 264 against Punjab Kings and then follow that up by getting bowled out for 75 against Royal Challengers Bengaluru," Bell said.

He also highlighted Delhi's inability to defend a massive total of 264 runs, suggesting that the team frequently failed to capitalise on favourable situations.

"There have been times when we have been brilliant and others when we simply haven't been good enough," Bell remarked.

Reflecting on missed opportunities, Bell said a few results could have dramatically altered Delhi's fortunes in the playoff race.

"If we turn those results around and, if we win tomorrow, suddenly we are sitting on 18 points and talking about a top-two finish. At times, we have probably been guilty of not closing games out," he said.

The comments from both camps underline how consistency and belief often prove decisive in a long and demanding IPL season.

Former Karnataka cricketer S.L. Akshay passes away: KSCA mourns loss

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

The President and Managing Committee of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) have expressed profound grief and deep sorrow over the untimely demise of former Karnataka cricketer S.L. Akshay.

Akshay represented Karnataka with distinction at the first-class level and continued his association with the game even after his playing career. He served as a junior-level coach and played a significant role in mentoring and shaping young cricketers across the state.

KSCA stated that his dedication to cricket, calm demeanour and selfless contribution to nurturing emerging talent earned him immense respect within the cricketing fraternity.

Bumrah carried niggle into IPL, reveals Jayawardene after MI struggles

MUMBAI

Mumbai Indians head coach Mahela Jayawardene has revealed that pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah entered IPL 2026 carrying a niggle from the T20 World Cup, while also admitting that the five-time champions failed to come together as a unit during a disappointing season.

Jayawardene reflected on a season marked by inconsistency, missed opportunities and an inability to build momentum despite occasional flashes of brilliance.

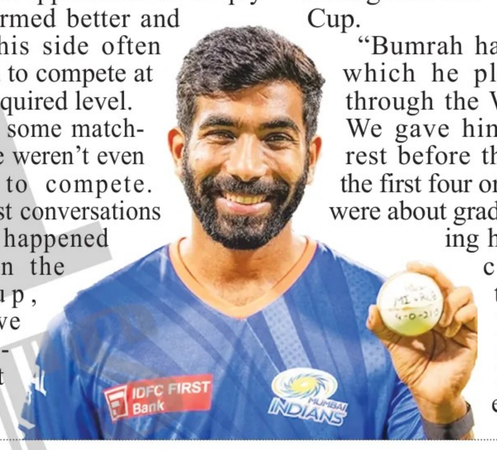
The former Sri Lanka captain said the team had several honest discussions throughout the tournament after a poor run of results dented confidence within the squad.

"Once we lost a few games and some confidence, we had some really good conversations within the group," Jayawardene said.

"At different stages of the competition, we sat down and discussed what we needed to do. We would win a game but then repeat the same mistakes and lose again."

Mumbai once again found itself battling near the bottom of the table rather than challenging for a playoff spot. Jayawardene acknowledged that several opponents had simply performed better and that his side often failed to compete at the required level.

"In some matches, we weren't even able to compete. Honest conversations have happened within the group, but we haven't been able to galvanise and get across the line. It's something for us to reflect on post-season," he said.



Jayawardene also shed light on Bumrah's subdued performances during the early stages of the tournament.

According to the coach, the star fast bowler was still recovering from a lingering issue that he had managed throughout the T20 World Cup.

"Bumrah had a niggle which he played with through the World Cup. We gave him adequate rest before the IPL, but the first four or five games were about gradually building him up. You could see that the pace had dropped a little," he explained.

Shot selection, not maturity, key to success, says Ishan Kishan

HYDERABAD

Sunrisers Hyderabad batter Ishan Kishan believes intelligent shot selection rather than maturity has been the biggest factor behind his impressive IPL 2026 campaign, after another match-winning knock helped his side register a commanding victory over Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

Kishan struck a fluent 79 off 46 balls, laced with eight fours and three sixes, as Sunrisers Hyderabad piled up a daunting 255 for four at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium. The hosts then restricted RCB to 200 for four to secure a comprehensive 55-run win and finish third in the league standings.

The innings also saw Kishan cross the 500-run mark for the season, underlining his consistency at the top of the order.

The India wicketkeeper-batter said he has deliberately simplified his approach this season.

"Just happy about it, taking one match at a time, not making it complicated for myself. It's just about watching the ball and playing your game," Kishan said.

While many have attributed his success to growing maturity, the left-hander insisted that understanding situations and selecting the right options have made the real difference.

"More than maturity, it's about shot selection. You should know when to play which shot and who to target. I'm just trying to take one ball at a time, know the situation, understand the pitch and play my shots," he explained.

GAMBHIR MAY HAVE FINAL SAY ON SURYAKUMAR'S FUTURE AS T20 CAPTAIN

NEW DELHI

India's T20 captaincy debate appears set to hinge on the views of head coach Gautam Gambhir, with a senior BCCI source indicating that the national selectors are increasingly uncertain about Suryakumar Yadav retaining his place in the side purely as a batter.

According to the source, the selection committee has serious concerns over Suryakumar's prolonged slump in form and believes the time may be approaching to look beyond the current T20 skipper. However, Gambhir's strong relationship with the Mumbai batter and his influence within the team setup could prove decisive when the final decision is made.

Suryakumar, one of the most innovative T20 batters of his generation, has endured a difficult run over the past year. The selectors had hoped the IPL would help him rediscover the form that saw him score more than 700 runs in the previous season. Instead, his struggles continued.

The 35-year-old managed only 210 runs in 12 IPL innings this season, averaging below 18 despite maintaining a strike rate of 148. Those numbers have raised questions about his place in the national team, particularly with India already planning for future tournaments, including the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

"Initially the selectors thought that IPL would help Suryakumar regain form. But there hasn't been any technical course correction in his game," the source said.

The source further suggested that selectors believe a player should first justify his selection as a batter before being considered for leadership responsibilities.

"If someone can't earn his place as a batter, how can he be a leader?" the source remarked, adding that chief selector Ajit Agarkar and Gambhir would need to be aligned on any major decision.

Potential successors are already being discussed. Shreyas Iyer, Shubman Gill and Tilak Varma are among the names being considered, while emerging talents such as Vaibhav Sooryavanshi are viewed as part of India's long-term plans.

Gill remains a strong contender after another productive IPL season, while Tilak's appointment as captain for the India A tri-series is being seen as an opportunity to assess his leadership credentials.

For now, Suryakumar's future remains uncertain.

Three national records fall as Gurindervir, Vishal and Tejaswin shine

RANCHI

Indian athletics witnessed a landmark day at the National Athletics Federation Cup as three national records tumbled in the men's events, with sprinter Gurindervir Singh, quarter-miler Vishal T K and decathlete Tejaswin Shankar producing extraordinary performances.

The trio etched their names into the record books with stunning displays that highlighted the growing depth and quality of Indian track and field. While Gurindervir and Tejaswin also secured qualification for the upcoming Commonwealth Games, Vishal became the first Indian ever to break the 45-second barrier in the men's 400 metres.

Gurindervir, representing Reliance, clocked a sensational 10.09 seconds in the men's 100m final, bettering the previous national record of 10.15 seconds set just a day earlier by Animesh Kujur. The 25-year-old from Punjab not only qualified for the Commonwealth Games by surpassing the Athletics Federation of India's qualifying mark of 10.16 seconds but also became the second-fastest Asian sprinter this season, trailing only Japan's Fukuto Komuro, who has clocked 10.08 seconds.

"Raayan Amruth C - World records by a three-year-old little boy High Range Book of World Records and India Records - 'World Records'

Raayan Amruth C, son of Chethan Amruth R.T. and Madhushree T.R., residents of Tumakuru, Karnataka, has created two world records at a very young age, making the whole world turn and take notice. At an extremely young age, he very easily identified and named 525 subjects, objects, pictures, books, etc. in a very short time. This achievement was accomplished under the guidance of Ambika C, a multiple world record achiever and Chief coordinator.

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